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THE ERA

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THE THEATRE GOERS' GUIDE.

List of West End Theatres open, with address, 'phone number, current attraction, and time of starting the performance.

ADELPHI (Strand).—"The Boy," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.

AMBASSADORS (West-st., Shaftesbury-avenue).—"The Wonder Tales," 2.30. "Out of Hell," 8. Gerr. 4460.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Inside the Lines," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3943.

COMEDY (Panton-street). — "Bubbly," 2.15 and 8.15. Gerr. 3724.

CRITERION (Piccadilly-circus). — "A Little Bit of Fluff," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Regent 3365 and Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Leicester-square).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 8. Tues., Sat., 2. Gerr. 202.

DRURY LANE (Catherine-st., W.C.).—"Aladdin," 1.30 and 7.30. Gerr. 2588.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane).—"The Thirteenth Chair," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 314.

GAIETY (Strand).—"The Beauty Spot," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2780.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-road). — "The Saving Grace," 2.30. Wed., Sat., 8.30. Gerr. 9513.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue) — "The Willow Tree," 2.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 8.30. Gerr. 8722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket).—"General Post," 8.30. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sat., 8.30. Regent 6030.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Tues., Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 1777.

KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-street).—"When Knights Were Bold," 2.30 (except Fri.), 8.15 (except Mon. and Fri.). Gerr. 4032.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street).—"Seven Days' Leave," 2.30 and 7.45. Gerr. 7617-8.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Romance," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3687.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane).—"Peter Pan," 2. Thurs., Sat., 2. Regent 4466.

OXFORD (Oxford-street).—"The Better 'Ole," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 3934.

PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Pamela," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 6384.

PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross).—"The Yellow Ticket," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.

PRINCE OF WALES'S (Coventry-street).—"Yes, Uncle," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 7482.

PRINCES (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Carminetta," 8. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7482.

QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Brewster's Millions," 8.30. "A Kiss for Cinderella," 2.30. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-street). — "Afflicted," 2.30. Thurs., Sat., 8.15. Gerr. 2055.

ST. JAMES'S (King-st., S.W.).—"Charley's Aunt," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 3903.

ST. MARTIN'S (West-st., Shaftesbury-av.).—"Sleeping Partners," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1343.

SAVOY (Savoy-court, Strand, W.C.).—"Alice in Wonderland," 2.30. "Private Secretary," 8. Gerr. 3356.

SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Arlette," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 6666.

STRAND (Aldwych).—"Wild Heather," 8.30. "The Happy Family," 2.30. Gerr. 3830.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand). — "Cheep," 8.15. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3815.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road).—"Dear Brutus," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Regent 3028.

VARIETY THEATRES.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester-square). — "Round the Map," 8.15. "Bluebell in Fairyland," 2.15.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—Mark Hambourg, Violet Vanbrugh, Lydia Kyasht in ballet conducted by Sir Frederic Cowen, Roxy la Rocca, Ella Shields, Two Rascals and Jacobson, Ritchie Troupe, David Poole, &c., &c., 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 7541.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).—"Here and There," 8.30. Tues., Fri., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.

LONDON HIPPODROME (Cranbourn-st.).—"Zig-Zag," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.

LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus). —"Any Old Thing," 2.15 and 8.15. Gerr. 3686.

PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.).—Little Tich, Ernie Lotinga and Co., Neil Kenyon, Bransby Williams, Geo. Mozart, Albert Whelan, Coram, Vernon, Watson, Hartley Wonders, Torino, 2.30, 6.10, and 9. Gerr. 1004.

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Owbridge's Lung Tonic

For COUGHS and COLDS

FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

"OUT OF HELL."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Herbert Thomas. Produced at the Ambassadors Theatre on Saturday, Jan. 5.

Mrs. Ford ..... } Frau Hartzmann } Miss Frances Ivor

Carl Hartzmann ..... } Arthur Ford ..... } Mr. H. Brough Robertson

A surprise was sprung upon the audience that gathered last Saturday evening at the Ambassadors Theatre for the first performance of "Out of Hell," presented by Mr. C. B. Cochran and Mr. Richard T. Maynard. Curiosity had been whetted by the deliberate avoidance of any mention of the cast. Even the programme merely showed that there were at least four characters, and gave only the names of Miss Frances Ivor and Mr. H. Brough Robertson. It was not until the second act was halfway through that I began to glimpse the reason. There were no others. These two were going to bear the whole burden of the play (no inconsiderable weight) on their shoulders, and by the end of the evening, which came at an early hour, they had both won my hearty admiration for their ability, their pluck, and their endurance, for theirs was indeed a feat of strength as well as of brains.

Honestly, I have found less enjoyment in many a better play. Here are improbabilities by the score, a lack of distinction of style, a labouring of the obvious that is positively painful at times, but a touch of humanity, a setting forth of the finest instincts in man and woman that compels not only interest but also praise.

Briefly, it is the story of two mothers and two sons, and Fate's play at cross-purposes with them during three years of war. Mrs. Ford, mother No. 1, is English, and at the beginning of the story is saying good-bye to her son Arthur as he is starting for France. When he returns, eighteen months later, for his first leave, she discovers very quickly that it is not Arthur but an impostor, a German spy (would that all spies were such palpable impostors!), bearing a strong resemblance to her son. She is faced with the alternative of betraying her country by letting the spy go or condemning her son—a prisoner held hostage in Germany—to death. After a soul-stirring struggle, she telephones for the police.

In the meantime Frau Hartzmann, mother No. 2 (twin sister of Mrs. Ford), who has married a German officer and cut off all connection with her English relations since her marriage, has her flat invaded by an English prisoner escaped from Torgau. Mistaking him at first for her own son, she realises in a short time that he is her nephew. She, too, has a terrific struggle with herself, but the blood of the British predominates, and she connives at Arthur's escape, only to be shot in his place. Arthur escapes to England (we need not inquire how he does it, we just accept the author's word), to find his mother demented by the sufferings she has undergone. At first she treats him as a complete stranger, then as he insists upon the resemblance between himself and her son and memory struggles painfully back to the poor tired brain, she assumes that he is the imposter, escaped from Donnington Hall (?), where for Mrs. Ford's sake he has been confined instead of being shot as a spy, and attempts to stab him with her scissors. He wrests them from her, she sinks exhausted into a chair, and Arthur, kneeling, buries his head in her lap. The mother strokes his hair, and when he raises his face she recognises her son. Curtain.

It is no good beginning to ask such questions as "Why did he do this?" or "How could she do that?" for they would be never-ending, and the answers could not be satisfactory. The author boldly overrides all improbabilities, and left me unconvinced, but ready to panegyrise his courage and hi[illegible]ity.

Miss Frances Ivor has never attempted or accomplished more than she does as Mrs. Ford and Frau Hartzmann. She is particularly fine in the last act as the demented mother, a pathetic and memorable performance. Admirable work, too, is done by Mr. H. Brough Robertson, simple and natural as the young English soldier, and especially good as the German spy. The play met with a very friendly rece[illegible] and the author (Mr. Bert Tho[illegible] was called.

MABEL KOOPMAN.

A Bristol Novelty.

The dame at the Theatre Royal pantomime at Bristol of "Babes in the Wood" distributed free cigarettes for patrons to smoke in the interval, but they savour of the sprat to catch a mackerel for "fie" also offers songs for sale, and the proceeds go to the purchase of "fags" for the men "out there." A collection of cigarettes is also made in a model tank in the vestibule for men on active service.

The "Old Vic."

Next week, at the "Old Vic." "Twelfth Night" will be given on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings and on Wednesday afternoon. On Thursday there will be a matinée of the Christmas holiday plays, "A Naval Review of Revues" and Dickens' "Christmas Carol," played by the "Vic." Shakespeare Company, and produced by Ben Greet. On Tuesday evening Mr. W. G. Whittaker will lecture on the music of the English composer, G. Von Holst.

"The 13th Chair," at the Duke of York's Theatre, passed its 100th performance this week.

SISTERS OF MERCY MATINEE

An attractive matinée in aid of the funds of the Sisters of Mercy and their Homes for Working Women and Girls was held, under the patronage of His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, at the Vaudeville Theatre (lent by Messrs. J. M. and R. Gatti and Mr. Andre Charlot) last Friday afternoon. The afternoon began, most fittingly, with the presentation of a singularly beautiful living picture of "Our Lady of Pity" (Lady Lavery), designed by Mr. Glyn Philpot, A.R.A., and the recitation by Miss Lillah McCarthy of some fine and appropriate verses by Mr. Kineton Parkes. Then followed some graceful and clever dancing by Mlle. Ninette de Valois and Miss Violet Curtis; a song, "Roses of Picardy," by Miss Gwendoline Brogden; a few charming old French songs and an English nursery rhyme, given with exquisite demureness in the Yvette Guilbert style, by Mlle. Raymonde Collignon; Miss Teddie Gerard and Mr. Walter Williams in the "Kisses Duet" from "Cheep"; Mr. Nelson Keys in his imitations; and the illustration of a dozen bewitching children bewitchingly garbed in the Kate Greenaway style of "Pictures and Rhymes" to nursery verses recited by Lady Joan Capel and Miss Viola Tree. A feature of this last most attractive item was the first appearance on any stage of Master Dennis Parsons, the tiny grandson of the late Sir Herbert Tree. Bearing already a strong resemblance to his grandfather, staring round-eyed at the mass of white confronting faces, Master Dennis made his first entrance, clutching tightly at the hand of his mother, who was obviously a little anxious as to whether the latest branch was prepared to receive his baptism of limelight in tears or in smiles.

We were promised two new one-act plays and one sketch, but "The Elixir," by "A. T. Home," in which Miss Ellen O'Malley and Mr. Otho Stuart were to have appeared, did not materialise.

The other was

"BIRD IN HAND."

Fairy Play, in One Act, by Laurence Housman.

Professor Braintree ..... Mr. J. Fisher White
Miss Tuckey ..... Miss Daisy Weekes
Dr. Locum ..... Mr. E. H. Paterson
Elfrida ..... Miss Agnes Baddeley
Bird-in-Hand ..... Miss Joan Vivian-Rees

Though a little too drawn out, this was a pretty fantasy, delicately written, admirably acted, showing how the brain of the most hardened scientist can be made susceptible to the glamour of a child's fairyland. Little Elfrida sends from the country to her fond grandfather a green leaf from a tree haunted by fairies, and the leaf turns into a mischievous, maddening, dicky-bird elf chirruping and flitting and tantalising until the poor old man is on the verge of insanity, and is restored, not by the commonplaces of his physician, but by the beautiful faith of the child. A very clever performance of a mischievous, soulless, green sprite with the twitterings of a bird was given by Miss Joan Vivian-Rees, Mr. J. Fisher White was, as usual, sound and polished as the old scientist, and good work was done by the other members of the cast.

"THE MATCHMAKER."

Sketch, by Mrs. Christopher Lowther. Music by Mr. Herbert Oliver.

He ..... Mr. Peter Gawthorne
She ..... Mrs. Christopher Lowther
The Stranger ..... Miss Eileen Orton

This proved a slight, graceful, poetic thing, and won the evident appreciation of the audience. The Stranger (enchantingly played by the tiny damsel) is the secret of life—Love. He shows the fairy lady (a captivating dancer) that her heart—much to her surprise—is in the safe keeping of a faithful friend, who at the touch of Cupid becomes the lady's devoted lover.

Probably owing to the length of the programme Miss Genevieve Ward, Miss Maidie Scott, and Mr. George Mozart did not appear.

The matinée in aid of the "Old Vic" Appeal Fund for Jan. 11 has been unavoidably postponed.

[Photo Claude Harris.
MR. MARTIN HARVEY.

THE PALLADIUM.

Mr. Chas. Gulliver is wisely pursuing in the New Year his policy of "all-star" variety bills here, and excellent business is the result. Included in the programme this week is the new burlesque,

"WANTED, A WIFE."

By Charles Baldwin, Bert Lee, and Ernie Lotinga.

Inspector Moran ..... Mr. Bert Roper
William Huntley ..... Mr. Adolph Luck
Jack Sullivan ..... Mr. Fred Grafton
Arabella Gibbe ..... Miss Kathleen Barbor
Mlle. Fifi ..... Miss Rie Costa
Sir George Lushington ..... Mr. Chas. Trevor
Jimmy Josser ..... Mr. Ernie Lotinga

This is another of the series of Jimmy Josser sketches, the scene here being laid in a matrimonial office, the proprietor of which is in difficulties, two or three prospective brides and bridegrooms having disappointed. Jimmy Josser, escaped from prison, is engaged to impersonate them all, and the succeeding comedy business is very funny. Finally, after Jimmy has commandeered all the agent's fees, the latter is arrested for Jimmy, and Josser is presented by detectives with a note-case which the agent had lost. Mr. Ernie Lotinga as Josser is very funny throughout. Mr. Adolph Luck again essays the arch-villain, and as William Huntley plays excellently. Miss Kathleen Barbor acts cleverly as Arabella Gibbs; and Miss Rie Costa is a charming Mlle. Fifi. Other parts are all well played by Mr. Chas. Trevor (a capital Sir. Geo. Lushington), Mr. Fred Grafton (as the Clerk), and Mr. Bert Roper as the Police Inspector.

Little Tich is as funny as ever he was in "My Peculiarity" and "The Tax Collector," and the great little comedian has a very hearty reception. Mr. Bransby Williams presents a new show, "Reggie's Review Around Town," which gives Bransby plenty of scope for those topical pleasantries which audiences love. His dramatic poem, too, is finely rendered. Neil Kenyon in his "Dramatic Editor" scene, and as the Poet, is very funny, both characters being cleverly and humorously portrayed. George Mozart in his thumbnail sketches and burlesques is as funny and as popular as he has ever been. Coram, and, of course, Jerry, get plenty of laughs; and Albert Whelan in his inimitable entertainment; Vernon Watson, the clever mimic; Torino, with his wonderful juggling; and the Hartley Wonders, in their comic jumping speciality, complete the fine programme here.

THE COLISEUM.

Principal among newcomers here this week is Mr. Mark Hambourg, the great pianist, who scored a veritable triumph on Monday. Mr. Hambourg opened with Chopin's Nocturne in G major, played very finely, and this was followed by the same composer's Polonaise in A flat, perhaps the best selection of the evening. This brought down the house, and Mr. Hambourg had to oblige again, playing Chopin's Etude in F major. Miss Ella Shields was unfortunately indisposed, and her place was filled by Les Trombettas, in their clever and finished act. Another turn new to the Coliseum on Monday was Madame Walker's Juveniles, an excellent troupe. The youngsters are all clever in singing and dancing, and the act was very popular. Roxy La Rocca had a hearty reception. His "wizardry of the harp" is well known, and the more popular the numbers the more popular he became. The Ritchie troupe of cyclists created plenty of hilarity. The funny men, and the clever lady cyclists, who make up the troupe, are to be complimented on their fine work. The Two Rascals and Jacobson soon won favour with their expert "ragtiming," for they are a combination second to none, and Morgan and Burke, who open the bill, have a really funny knockabout act. David Poole has a new ventriloquial act. The scene is in a school, and Johnny Green, the new scholar, the principal figure. The act is full of genuine humour; and Mr. Poole cleverly carries on conversations between three scholars and himself.

Remaining in the bill this week are Violet Vanbrugh and Co. in "The Woman on the Window Sill," and Lydia Kyasht and Co. in "Cupid's Conspiracy" (still conducted by Sir Frederick Cowen), both of which were fully noticed last week.

MARTIN HARVEY IN "DAVID GARRICK."

A special performance of T. W. Robertson's "David Garrick" was given at the Comedy Theatre yesterday afternoon in aid of the Lord Roberts' Memorial Workshops for Disabled Soldiers and Sailors. Naturally, the chief interest of the matinée, which was particularly well patronised, centred in the fact that it afforded Londoners a chance of seeing Mr. Martin Harvey in a part with which they have hitherto invariably associated the name of Sir Charles Wyndham. So admirably, so impressively did Mr. Harvey fill this rôle that provides exceptional opportunities for a fine actor, that it is to be sincerely hoped that as soon as an opportunity occurs, he will put the play in the bill for a London season. The polish, the wit, and the dignity of Garrick in the first scene, the recklessness, as well as the self-sacrifice of the drunken debauch, were beautifully and touchingly portrayed. Mr. Harvey was excellently supported by Miss N. de Silva, gentle and pathetic as Ada Ingot; by Mr. Rutland Barrington and Mr. P. Forbes Robertson, most humorous as Smith and Jones; by Mr. Fred Grove, a capital Simon Ingot; and by Messrs. J. Cooke Beresford, Leo Cavelli, H. Forbes Dawson, and Miss Marie Linder and Miss Mary Gray.

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MURRAY KING and CHARLES CLARK.
By arrangement with
Mr. Frank Curzon and Miss Gladys Cooper, will tour
"THE YELLOW TICKET."

By Michael Morton.
Tour starts in February.

D'OYLY CARTE OPERA COMPANY.

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Leads, Emotional Leads.
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Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

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Relinquishing engagement with Harry Nelson, Esq. At liberty Jan. 19 for Juvenile, Comedy, or special part in Revue or Drama. This, T.R., South Shields. Next, Empire, Gateshead.

MISS MARION FAWCETT.
Engaged by Arthur Aldin, Esq.
Lady Boyd, "Wild Heather."

MISS CLAUDIA GUILLOT.
Disengaged.
Address, 5, Loraine-mansions, Holloway.

MRS. WALTER HOWARD.
(Miss Agnes Chesson). Not working.
99, Airedale-avenue, Chiswick, W. 4.

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Engaged by Horace Hodges, Esq., for "Grumpy" tour. 14, Bridge-avenue, Hammersmith, W.

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Mrs. Clugston, in "The Rottera."
Ringwater Cottage, Thames Ditton, Surrey.

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Disengaged shortly. Character parts. T. C. Dagnall's Co., "The Little Minister." Perm. address, 11, Marchmont-street, Russell-square, W.C.

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Dis. Lead, Heavy, or special parts.
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Legitimate. Town. Dis. Putney Heath, S.W.

MR. CECIL CLAYTON.
Disengaged.
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MR. JOHN M. EAST.
Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's Pantomime, T.R., Nottingham. Disengaged end of run.

MR. ARTHUR ELWYN.
Leads. Disengaged. Thanks for offers "Monty's Flapper," also "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace," &c. Rodwell House, 71, King-street, Southsea, Hants.

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Disengaged.
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Character, Comedy, Old Men. Engaged by Bromley Challenor, Esq., Barker,
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Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, N.B.

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"Mr. R. H. Lace's Biondello is perfect." Arrangements complete. A. A.

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General Manager, Henry Baynton's (Rep.) Co. This, Oswestry. Next, Aberystwith.

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Dis. for Com., Char., Dialects.
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En route, or "Rostrevor," Poulton-le-Fylde.

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Re Nita Rae's plays for tour, stock, or cinemas, address,
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EX-GR. J. CLYDE MILLER.
John Cooper in "Merry Waters."
Hengler's Circus, Glasgow.

MR. JOHN NESBITT.
Disengaged. 11, Mornington-crescent, London, N.W. 1.

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Recently discharged, invites offers (town preferred).
Juvenile or Character.
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Arrangements complete.
"Langdale Chase," Windermere.

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Third week, and going stronger than ever.
The talk of the Midlands.
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Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

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Old King Cole, Prince's Theatre, Bristol. Disengaged for Spring.

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Dis., Char. Parts or Old Men.
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COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E. Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 11, 18, on.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 18, 25, April 1, May 6, 20, June 10, on.

OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
May 29, Aug. 12, 19, Sept. 2, 9, 16, on.

ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
June 10, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.

HUDDERSFIELD.
March 18, April 15, 22, 29, on.
Good Revues, Twice Nightly.

OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
The Opera House is the only building in Northampton holding a Dramatic Licence.
May 6, 20, 27, June 3, on.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
April 1, 8, 15, 22, May 6, on.

Add., MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, County Theatre, Bedford,
Mar. 18, April 29, July 1, 8, Aug. 12, on.
Grand Theatre, Luton,
April 1, May 27, July 22, Aug. 5, on.
Theatre Royal, Canterbury.
Wire for Jan. 21 (through obliging), Feb. 18, Mar. 11, April 1, on.
R. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, F. R. Littler.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only. Vacant dates, Easter (?) (for special musical attraction), June, August Bank Holiday, and onward, with exceptions. The Very Best Attractions Booked and Rebooked.
Re dates, JAY and MANN.

DALSTON THEATRE, N.E.
WANTED, First-class Once Nightly Attractions, Feb. 18, 25, March 11, 18, and onwards.
Apply, J. LANGDON LEE.

NEW THEATRE, WINDSOR.
MANAGER, J. E. BULL.
WANTED, First-class West-End Attractions only for Feb. 25, on.

Grand Theatre, Rhyl.
Now pencilling dates for Summer Season, 1918. Easter, Whit., July, Aug., Sept.
WANTED, good-class Companies.
SAMUEL THORNLEY, Manager.

New Theatre, Oxford.
WANTED, High-class Attractions only, once or twice nightly; bookings include "Peter Pan," "The Better 'Ole," "Bubbly," Martin Harvey, "Bing Boys," "High Jinks," Violet Vanbrugh, "The Invisible Foe," "The Yellow Ticket," Carl Rosa Opera Company.
Apply, S. C. DORRILL.

Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.
WANTED, First-class Attraction.
Dramatic or Revue.
Monday next, Jan. 7.
Through disappointment.
Wire lowest terms, MORTON POWELL, Empire Theatre, Mountain Ash.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions (Musical preferred) for the following dates, April 22, May 6, 13, 27, and on, with exceptions.
Applications re dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

HIPPODROME, CANNOCK.
HIPPODROME, CANNOCK.

WANTED, Pantos., Revues, Musical Comedy.
Pantos., Revues, Musical Comedy.

Jan. 14 and 28.
Jan. 14 and 28.

Wire. Wire. Wire.
ELLIMAN,
Hippo., Cannock.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, once nightly, for March 25. Also Big Attractions, Once or Twice Nightly, April 22, onwards.
C. G. ELPHINSTONE.

SCARBOROUGH GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies (Musical preferred), Feb. 18, onward.
For Vacant Dates apply
WILLIAM PEACOCK,
Opera House,
Harrogate.

PAVILION, TORQUAY.
Proprietors, the Corporation.
WANTED, First-class Companies; May 6 and season dates onward; always good business. Apply, MANAGER
CHARLES G. PRICE.

King's, Melton Mowbray.
WANTED, small but first-rate Revue, Pantomime, or Musical Attraction, Jan. 14, 21, 28; able to follow A. Behan's "Wait a Minute" Revue. Apply, MANAGER, as above.

PONTNEWYNYDD PAVILION, PONTYPOOL, MON.
Pontypool's Premier Playhouse.
The only recognised theatre in the coalfields of the Eastern Valleys of Monmouthshire.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Farcical Comedies, Powerful Dramas that draw, First-class Revues, for the following vacant dates, Feb. 11, 25, March 18, 25, April 8, on, with exceptions.
All the Best Companies on Tour visit this theatre.
All coms., DAVE MYERS.

Victoria Opera House, Burnley.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (not revue).
Wire, HORNER, Burnley.

ROYAL PALACE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions for Feb. 4, 25, and various on. Now booking July, Aug. and Sept., 3 nights each. For dates, apply PETER RUSKIN'S AGENCY, 41, Queen Berths-road, Ramsgate. 'Phone 31.

WANTED, Revue or Drama, for Monday next; also Jan. 21, Feb. 4 (?), 11, March 4, and on. Wire for Monday. EXPERT, Barnoldswick.

COMPANIES WANTED.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE,
March 7 (3), Easter (?), April 8 (3), 18 (3).
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
March 4 (3), April 11 (3), 15 (3), 29.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE,
June 10, 17, Late Autumn.
London Representative for W. W. Kelly and Opera House, Blackpool,
H. W. ROWLAND'S AGENCY,
52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
'Phone, Regent 1661. Wires, "Topobill, Piccy, London."

WANTED, First-class Attractions only,
T.R., DUBLIN.
G.T., DUBLIN.
O.H., BELFAST, March 4.
O.H., CORK, April 1, 15, May 6.
G.T., SWANSEA, March 18, April 8, 22.
L.T., NEWPORT, April 1, 15.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, March 4 (?), April 22 (?).
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH.
Apply,
THE FREDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES, 1 and 2, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

King's Theatre, W.
Wimbledon Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Wimbledon, Jan. 21, also King's, Feb. 4 and 11, and Wimbledon, Feb. 18 and 25.
Note.—These four weeks available through postponement of "Seven Days' Leave."
Address, J. B. MULHOLLAND,
King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

Theatre Royal, Stockport.
Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions.
Stockport, Feb. 4, 25, March 4.
Ashton, Feb. 4, 11, and 18.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T.R., Stockport.

Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for March 11.
Only vacancy until May 27.
Apply,
E. H. BULL, as above.

Scala Theatre, Spacombe.
Now booking spring and autumn dates.
WANTED, First-class Attraction only.

Once or twice nightly.
Unexpectedly vacant,
February 4 and 18.

J. GAFFNEY.

Ipswich Lyceum.
Lessee, Mr. E. H. Bostock.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, first-class Attractions, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, and onwards.
Apply, MISS PARKIN, Ipswich Lyceum.

PALACE THEATRE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Feb. 18, March 25 and various on.
BIG ATTRACTIONS FOR SUMMER SEASON.
The only theatre in the centre of the town.

ALBANY WARD,
Guildhall Chambers, Weymouth.

WANTED, Dramatic Company, Feb. 11.
MANAGER, Alexandra T., Pontefract.

NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, T.R., Dewsbury, Feb. 25, March 4.
T.R., Halifax, March 11, April 8.
T.R., Rochdale, March 18, 25.
OTTO C. CULLING,
Booth Cot, East Sheen, London, S.W. 14.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Unexpectedly vacant Jan. 21.
Wire, DOUGLAS,
Winter Gardens,
New Brighton.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR, and EMPIRE THEATRE, BARNSLEY.
Managing Director, Will Smithson.
WANTED, good Companies for Barnsley, Feb. 25, March 4, 18, April 1, 15. Merthyr, Vacant, March 4, 25, April 15, May 6.
All the Big Attractions are Booked.
All communications,
WILL SMITHSON, Barnsley.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, through disappointment, Big Attraction for
Feb. 18, March 4, and onwards, with exceptions.
One performance nightly only.
Apply to CYRIL ROYCE.

WANTED, Attractions, Perth Theatre, Jan. 28 (six nights), Feb. 11 (three nights).
Apply, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

OPERA HOUSE SOUTHPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Feb. 25 (?), March 4 and 11.
Last week Bannister Howard's Pantomime at Theatre Royal, York.
PLAYED TO £966 5s. 3d.
(not including tax).
Now Booking Autumn.
All coms., W. PATRICK
Queen's Theatre Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

BLACKPOOL GRAND THEATRE.
The Premier Theatre, Lancashire.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, for Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, April 15, onwards. Business at the above popular theatre is exceptionally good, there being a large increase of residents and troops permanently stationed in the town. Good business is always assured. Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, April 15. Coms. to T. C. WRAY, 48, Leicester-square, London, W.C.

Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit.
Pavilion Theatre, Leicester.
Monday next possibly vacant.
WANTED, good Revue or Pantomime. Wire immediately to JOSEPH LAWRENCE, Pavilion, Leicester, or 'phone 2533.

Empire Theatre, Swindon.
WANTED, big Musical Production once or twice nightly, Feb. 11, March 11, April 29, May 6 (three nights only), May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 17, 24, July on, with exceptions. Wanted, big Pantomime, Christmas, 18-19; nine nights and matinées. ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

NEW THEATRE, SALISBURY.
WANTED, Right-class Attractions for Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 25, April 22, and various on.
Only companies that can follow "Three Weeks," "The Better 'Ole," "Diplomacy," "Monty's Flapper," "The Double Event," "Broadway Jones," "Her Love Against the World," &c.
The New Theatre draws from the following military camps, including Bulford, Larkhill, Fovant, Hurdcott, Codford, and Sutton Veny.
A resident population of over 26,000.
Write ALBANY WARD, Guildhall Chambers, Weymouth.

For other Companies Wanted, see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

"Under Two Flags" and "East Lynne." Full production carried. Mr. Frank Fenton as Bertie Cecil and Archibald Carlyle.

WANTED, First Vacant Date, March 18, to follow Brighton, Jan. 28, on. FRANK FENTON, T.R., Colchester, this and next week.

"Ann" (5th year) and "Beecham" (3rd year).
WANTED, March 11, April 1, 15. HALDANE CRICHTON, Pet., Watford.

WANTED, Dates for
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
One of the
Best and Brightest
Best and Brightest
Pantomimes touring.
Vacant Feb. 4, 11, 18.
Address, MORTON POWELL, Empire Theatre, Mountain Ash, this week.
Empire Theatre, Swindon, next week.

LEIGH LOVEL
and
OCTAVIA KENMORE
in
"GHOSTS."
This company has played to more money than all the other "Ghosts" Companies put together.
Scenery specially designed and built for this Production.
Company includes:—Mr. F. Pennington-Gush, Mr. A. E. Raynor, Miss Madaline Dore.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Feb. 18 and 25. LEIGH LOVEL, T.R., Aston.

MR. FREDERICK HARRISON'S HAYMARKET PRODUCTIONS.

"FISH PINGLE."
WANTED, March 18, 25 (?), April 29, May 20 (?).
"THE WIDOW'S MIGHT."
Vacant Feb. 11, 18, March 18, April 1, May 6.
"MR. JUBILEE DRAX."
Vacant March 25, May 13, June 3.
"QUINNEYS'."
Vacant Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 2, 9, and certain on, including Christmas, 1918.

EADE MONTEFIORE,
Haymarket Theatre, S.W.

"A BOY'S BEST FRIEND."
"A BOY'S BEST FRIEND."
"A BOY'S BEST FRIEND."
WANTED, Jan. 14, 21.
Wanted, Jan. 14, 21.
Wanted, Jan. 14, 21.
Change of bill on Friday night.
Wire, wire, wire.
LEILA ZILLWOOD, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 11, 3 nights, and Jan. 14, to follow Red ditch. "We're All In It" Revue. Three scenes. Star cast. Full chorus.
Wire, TAYLOR,
Palace, Redditch.

WANTED Known, might possibly prolong season if suitable theatres and terms offered.
"Aladdin," Feb. 4; "Cinderella," Feb. 4; "Little Red Riding Hood," Jan. 28.
Can be seen this week respectively at Empire, Kingston,
Bedford Palace, Camden Town, and Hippo., Golder's Green.

Address,
GEO. BRYDON PHILLIPS,
Empire, Kingston-on-Thames.
Next week,
New Theatre, Oxford.

J. FORBES KNOWLES' REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
Wire for Jan. 14 and 28.
"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
"THE STEPMOTHER."
"EAST LYNNE," "SAPPHO,"
"DAVID GARRICK," &c.

WANTED, Feb. 18, 25.
March 11, April 1, and on.

Established, Easter, 1904.

KNOWLES, Palace, Nelson, Lancs.

"THE MISLEADING LADY."
(Once or Twice Nightly.)
The Successful Playhouse Production.
WANTED, Jan. 28 (3 nights), to follow Dumfries.
Feb. 4 and 11,
and April 1.

HORSFIELD & WOODWARD,
103, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.
'Phone, Regent 5780.

WANTED, for "The Mollusc," Criterion Comedy, also "Cousin Kate," Feb. 11, on. W. A. THOMPSON, Playhouse, Faversham.

WANTED, Theatre (North), Jan. 21, for Scott Leighton and a particularly powerful cast, in "A Love Marriage" and "A Pitman's Daughters." W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. 11.

CHARLES LOCKE'S COMPANY.
"FOR MOTHERLAND."
"FOR MOTHERLAND."
"FOR MOTHERLAND."
WANTED, Jan. 21 and Feb. 4.
Jan. 21 and Feb. 4.
Jan. 21 and Feb. 4.
For the above pronounced success.
Address, CHARLES LOCKE. This, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.
Next week, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

Lena Stantons' London Company in grand pantomime,
"Mother Goose."
Once or twice nightly.
Enormous success last week, Hippo., Golder's Green.
This week, Palace, Battersea.
WANTED, Jan. 28, and various on, to follow Britannia, Hoxton. Vac. Jan. 28. All coms., HARRY JOSEPH, 6, Severus-rd., Clapham Junction, S.W.

Palladium, Littlehampton.
WANTED, Companies, Musical, Dramatic, &c., Jan. 14, 21, various on. Wire or write, V. VERNEY, Palace, Battersea, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

Henry L. Osmond's Mascot Pantomime
"LITTLE GOODY TWO SHOES."
"LITTLE GOODY TWO SHOES."
"LITTLE GOODY TWO SHOES."
Broke all panto. records in the annals of Bury and Rochdale Theatres. Refer Otto Culling, Esq.

WANTED, Theatres with large holding capacity
Feb. 4, 18, 25.
Special Invitation to managers wanting a High-class Production next year, 2 or 3 weeks' run preferred.
Read what the "Bury Observer" said after we left the town:—
"So acceptable was the pantomime 'Little Goody Two Shoes' at the Bury Theatre last week, that many townspeople have expressed the hope that the management may be able to arrange for a second visit of the company to Bury before the tour finishes. It was certainly one of the best pantomimes ever staged at the local Theatre."
Wire for above vacancies. Large theatres only need apply. HENRY L. OSMOND, Opera House, Coventry.

CHARLES HAWTREY'S FAMOUS FARCICAL COMEDY,
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
DIRECT FROM THE SAVOY THEATRE, LONDON.
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DIRECT FROM THE SAVOY THEATRE, LONDON.
DIRECT FROM THE SAVOY THEATRE, LONDON.
DIRECT FROM THE SAVOY THEATRE LONDON.

WANTED, First-class Theatres
Feb. 11 and 18.
March 4.
April 1. April 1.
Address, CECIL BARTH, Savoy Theatre London.

WANTED,
for
"AU REVOIR, PARIS" Revue.
The show with a reputation.
Jan. 21, between Mansfield and Aldershot.
First-class Hall only.
A. PEREZOFF,
Grand, Mansfield.

C. A. Stephenson, A. M. Norris, and Vivien Carter
present
their grand annual pantomime,
"CINDERELLA."
Entire production from the Theatre Royal, Plymouth. In Nine Brilliant Scenes, Coach and Ponies.
Full company of 30 artistes, including
The inimitable Comedian,
CARTER LIVESEY, as Capers (late of the Palace Theatre, London, "The Would-Be Actors," &c.), and
VIVIEN CARTER, as Cinderella (late Prima Donna, "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Arcadians," "Wedgwood Classics," "Pleased to Meet You," &c).
WANTED, Jan. 28, to precede Shrewsbury, Feb. 11 and 17. All coms. this week, New Theatre, Windsor.

Chas. E. Paton's Revue,
"Adams and Eves."
Can take the money if any about.
"Adams and Eves."
Company of 20 competent artistes, including Chas. E. Paton.
"Adams and Eves."
WANTED, Jan. 21, to follow Liverpool, and onwards, with exceptions.
"Adams and Eves."
This, Hip., Colchester.
Next, Rotunda, Liverpool.
Coms., CHAS. E. PATON, en route.

FREDERICK G. LLOYD'S OPERA COMPANIES.
WANTED, Feb. 18, onwards.
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Wanted, Feb. 18, onwards.
"LA POUPEE."
(Once or twice nightly.)
London district preferred.
Exceptional Cast,
Exceptional Cast,
including
Stella Gastelle, Harry Parker,
The Gresham Singers.
Powerful Chorus of 40.
Apply,
ROBERT ARTHUR,
Eccentric Club,
Ryder-street, St. James.

"Hullo, Baby!"
Company of 25, including the Military Gordons, Pipers and Drummers.
WANTED, Monday next, agent and printing ready.
Enormous success, New Garrick, Edinburgh, last week.
Rebooked for August.
Wire, SNELSON, Empire, Garston, for Monday next.

ERA ANNUAL.
50th (Jubilee) Year of Publication.
Among the special features are the following:—
"Romantic Plays in the Future."
By Doris Keane.
"Do Audiences Know Too Much."
By Weedon Grossmith.
Book your Advertising Space at once, before it is too late.

For other Theatres Wanted, see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, smart young Soubrette, able to play the piano a little; can live in or out; to join well-known troupe; comfortable engagement to suitable lady. Please write, LOMAS, 21, Gilmore-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Smart Principal Girl, for revue; good voice and appearance essential; must move well. Lowest terms, with photo (returned), to
Box 846, "The Era."

WANTED Known, young Juvenile Actress for West End plays; also Actor; rehearse Jan. 21. Photos. (returned), ERNEST DARE, 25, Orchard-place, Faversham.

WANTED (W. End), really Handsome Refined Girl for strong Comedy-Dramatic Part. Replies ignored without picture p.c. Salary, height, experience. Box 834, "The Era."

WANTED, for "Mrs. Pomeroy's Reputation," Lead (Esmond part). Aristocratic Character, Comedy Character (short). Lowest terms, particulars, VIVIAN GRANTHAM, 57, Carlisle-road, Hove, Sussex.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Middlesbrough (Jan. 23), Wakefield (Jan. 24), Liverpool (Jan. 25), a really capable, refined Lady Pianist, and do about 20 mins. turn à la Margaret Cooper on smart Recital Programme; residents in above neighbourhoods only need apply. Good money and other dates to follow to suitable artiste. Letters only, with photos (honourably returned), to "CAPTAIN H——H," Smarden, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Clever Lady, high-class scenes, playlets; London; mod. sal. The Elms, Fortis Green, N. 2.

Classic Dancing, Stage Gesture, and Elocution.
WANTED Known, Two Ladies, Teaching Original Method, require Six Refined Girls (ages 12-15) as Demonstrators (without previous training preferred); offer closes Jan. 22. Apply, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4.30-5 p.m., Studio, 122a, Beaufort-street, Chelsea, S.W. 3.

WANTED, Comedian (Dram. pref.), for short Burlesque; sing a little; no weeks out; rehearse at once or soonest. BEVAN, Hippo., Connah's Quay.

WANTED, Character Comedian, robust Actress, Vocalist, and 3 small part Ladies (tour); all must sing and dance. K. H. AARN, 268, Brockley-road, S.E. 4.

WANTED, a First-class Actor for a Dramatic Juvenile part in music hall sketch. Full particulars, Box 852, "The Era."

"THE BETTER 'OLE" TOURS.
WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen for the above tours. Apply by letter only, with terms and all particulars, FRED. FREDERICKS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E. 15.

WANTED, for eight weeks' Repertory Season of West End Plays at the Empire Theatre, Wakefield, commencing Whit Monday; rehearse two weeks' previous:—Good Leading Man, Actor for Heavy Parts, Actor for Juvenile and Comedy Parts, Actor for Old Men and Aristocratic, Two Good Character Actors, experienced Stage Manager, attractive Juvenile Lady, Character Actress able to play both old and young parts. Full particulars (letters only), T. SHERWOOD, c/o Messrs. Edelstein and Burns, 25-27, Oxford-st., W.

WANTED, Artistes.
All parts, "Cinema Star" and "Pearl Girl," No. 1 Spring Tours. Write, P. T. SELBIT'S AGENCY, 102, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C. 2.

MR. WILL H. GLAZE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Artistes in all lines, rehearse immediately. Full pars., refs., photos (where not known essential), W. H. GLAZE, Little Dene, 121, Bedford Hill, Balham, S.W. 12. Wires, "Glazoria, Bal., London."

WANTED, Male Buck Dancer and Tenor, to move in Concerteds; long tour. Full pars., to open immed., MANAGER, 35, Eleanor-st., S. Shields.

WANTED, good responsible people, open at once, used to stock. Wire, W. JAMES, Empress, Arnold, Notts.

WANTED, smart Chorus Ladies, to open at once; also useful Revue Artistes. Call any day between 12 and 1 o'clock, or from 2.30 to 3.30. FRANK BOYCE'S AGENCY, 45/6, Chandos-st., Charing Cross, London, W.C. 2. 'Phone, Regent 5529. 'Grams, "Knarfoyce, Westrand, London."

WANTED, tall, handsome Chorus Ladies; open at once; long tour; also vacancy for Leading Soprano; small part and chorus. HENRY L. OSMOND, Osmond Opera House, Coventry.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies.
Chorus Ladies.
Troupe of Dancers.
Troupe of Dancers.
Troupe of Clever Children.
Wire, MORTON POWELL, Empire T., Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Chorus Girls, smart, good looking, and experienced, for West End productions, revues, musical comedy, &c. Apply M. Y. OLNEY, Stage Door, London Hippodrome, 12 noon and 5.15 all this week.

WANTED Known, Dancing taught, all subjects, Toe, Ballet, Solo, Character, Buck, and Schottische Dancing. E. BARNES, 5, Denmark-st., London, W.C.

WANTED, Male Choristers, for first-class touring company; salary £2 to £2 10s. to suitable applicants. Box 837, "The Era."

"THE BETTER 'OLE" TOURS.
WANTED, discharged soldiers as extra gentlemen for "The Better 'Ole" Tours. Apply Thursday, at 5 o'clock, to FRED. FREDERICKS, Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, London, W.C.

WANTED, Messrs. William Bown and Arthur Trail, if disengaged, to Communicate immediately with Miss ROSE ATHERTON, 56, Beechdale-road, Brixton Hill, S.W. 2.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED Known, Contralto, Manchester lady, extra rich and pure, Festival winner, open for Engagement. Box 836, "The Era."

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Semi-Pro. Soubrette for well-known West London Concert Party; must be refined and move well in concerteds; rehearse immediately. Send repertoire, photo., and full particulars to F. M., 1, Oxford-mansions, Chiswick, W. 4.

WANTED, rehearse Monday Pianist, Tenor, or Baritone and Comedienne for C.P. LISTER REEKIE, 75, Healdgrove, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime Comedian, for Baron in "Beauty and the Beast," through illness. Rehearse immediately. Wire lowest terms. MORTON POWELL, Empire Theatre, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Revue to follow, Comedians, Dancers, Chorus, Carpenter, Scenic Artist, Smart Boy for Baggage and play Goose. Full pars., refs., lowest terms, photos., &c., to HARRY JOSEPH, 6, Severus-rd., Clapham Junction, S.W. Audition, 12 to 1 Friday, at Palace, Battersea.

Pantomime.
WANTED, smart Chorus Ladies; long tour; Revue to follow; open immediately. Full pars. and terms, WILLIAM DE LACY, Grand Theatre, Halifax, Next, Regent, Salford.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED Known, A. P. BURNS, Comedian and Pantomimist, is quite restored. Vacant Monday, Jan. 14. Wire, 176, Stockwell Park-rd., Brixton, London, S.W. 9.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Beginners, Amateurs; those wishing to take up stage (all branches) or cinema; everything supplied; advice free; dancing taught; private tuition; children prepared. Call or write, WARD, 155, Willesden-lane, Brondesbury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Manager, for Town Hall Theatre, Skipton; must be a hustler. A comfortable living for an energetic man. Full pars., MANAGER, Palace, Barnoldswick.

WANTED, for Tivoli Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, reliable Resident Manager; must have full knowledge of the Variety business; not eligible for the Army. Apply, SIGNOR PEPI, Hippodrome, Darlington. Mark letters "Manager."

Cinema, Eastern Suburbs.
WANTED, experienced Operator, also expert Pianist, Violinist, &c. Write full pars., 62, St. Peter's-road, E. 1.

WANTED, a non-eligible practical Stage Carpenter, electrician also, able to operate and capable of taking entire charge of back of house and scenting apparatus, &c.; permanency for right man. Apply; stating wages, MANAGER, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

WANTED, Carpenter (resident), bench hand, also Property Man. Age, references, salary, E. GRAHAM-PALCON, County Theatre, Bedford

WANTED, a thoroughly reliable Carpenter; must be totally exempt, have own tools and brushes; speak one line. Apply, with references, lowest terms, age, and full particulars, to
HARRY UGAR,
Palace of Varieties, Chatham.

WANTED, a good and reliable Master Carpenter, to travel with "A Royal Divorce" Company; to the right man a good, steady engagement will be offered, but he must understand his business and be prepared to play a small part if required. All applicants must be ineligible for Military Service.
Send latest references, terms required, &c., to W. W. KELLY,
Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED permanently for Stores at Reading, first-class Carpenter (owing to death); must be good bench hand, capable of making from models. Wages and references, MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED immediately, Doorman and Billposter (combined). State lowest terms and references to MILLARD, Coliseum, Shoreham-by-Sea, near Brighton.

"THE BETTER 'OLE" TOURS.
WANTED, first-class Advance Agent; must know country well. All particulars by letter only, FRED. FREDERICKS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E. 15.

WANTED, a good Shorthand Typist; one with knowledge of theatrical work preferred. Apply, T. SCOTT BELL, 4, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, Exor. as Resident Manager; age 54; exp. in all branches, Theatres, Music and Pictures, Bars, &c.; undeniable refs.; could open at once. MANAGER, c/o Egbert's Agency, 17, Shaftesbury-av., London, W. Telephone 6519 Gerrard.

WANTED Known, exp. Res. Stage Manager-Carp. desires a change; Res. offers in or near London; 17 years' exp.; smart and active; finally discharged; used to variety, &c. Box 794, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Conductor (Violinist), for permanency; Grand Opera House, Scarborough. Terms and refs., SHELFORD WALSH, Manager.

WANTED at once or earliest, good Violinist-Conductor, also Pianist and Organist, for orchestra in good-class kinema in the Midlands. Address, with full particulars, Box 843, "The Era."

Perth Theatre.
WANTED, Pianist-Conductor (to play string when required), good First Violin, D. Bass.
Apply, with latest references,
J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Pianist-Conductor for Panto.; long comfortable tour with revue to follow. Full pars., terms and refs., first letter, to MADGE FENTON, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland. Next, Hippo., Altrincham.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, First Violin, 'Cello. Apply, PEELS', LTD., Central House, Kingsway, W.C.

WANTED, Exp. Rep. Violinist for Fulham district, afternoons (six) only, from 3.30 to 5; fee 15s. Box 841, "The Era."

WANTED, Repetit. Violin, Drummer, 'Cello; open at any time; salary, &c.; M. D., Palace, Reading.

WANTED, Two Repetiteur Violinists, 'Cellists, and good Relief Pianist for South-West Cinema. Write, NAT GROSSMAN, 355, High-road, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, a very good Violin Repetiteur (Gent.), for Cinema; commence Jan. 14 or 21. Call after 2.30, The Palladium, Balham, S.W. 12.

WANTED.—Violin Leader, for small String Orchestra, for Café, Pictures, and occasional Chamber Concerts; must be thoroughly experienced; salary, 3 guineas per week. Apply, MANAGER, Pavilion, Torquay.

WANTED, Violinist; good, reliable leader; A.M.U. terms. Coliseum Theatre, Saltley, Birmingham.

WANTED, a first-class Violinist, leader, for evening work; good wages to the right man.
'Phone, evenings, New Cross 2228.
Lion Kinema.

WANTED, Leader, Bristol Hippodrome. Apply by letter, with full particulars, to HOWARD W. GALPIN, Musical Directors, Hippodrome, St. Augustine's Parade, Bristol.

WANTED, exp. Violin Leader; open immed.; Pic. and Var. Terms, refs., first letter, urgent. M. D., Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.

WANTED, London, S.W., Leader Violinist.
W., Leader Violinist, Pianist, and 'Cellist. South Coast, 'Cellist, also all instruments, one week, Jan. 28, matinées only.
Midlands, Orchestral Pianist.
First-class engagements. 'Phone, call, or full particulars in first letter. MAURICE PIENA'S ORCHESTRAS, 3, Birchington-road, Kilburn, N.W. 6. Tel.: Hampstead 7246.

WANTED, a good First Violinist, immediately; afternoons and evenings. Apply, MR. GILLETT, The Coronet Theatre, Notting-hill-gate, W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Cinema, N. London, First Violin; 3 matinées and 6 evenings; no Sundays. Terms, &c., Easter only. Vacancies in provinces for Strings and Piano, also Drum; ladies or gents. E. J. PARKER, 9, Duckett-rd., Finsbury Park, N. 4.

DE WOLFE'S DIRECTION.
157, Wardour-street, W. 1.
Gerrard 3623.
WANTED, Leader-Violinist, for N.W. London and Acton; Repetiteur Violinist for N.E. and S.W. London; 'Cellist for N.W. and S.W. London; brilliant Orchestral Pianist for N. and N.W. London; Solo Cornet for N.W. London; Tympanist for W. London; and Pedal Organist for N. and S.W. London.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, for Trio, Restaurant engagement; first-class experienced player.—Write, Box 798, "The Era."

WANTED, Violin, 'Cello, Flute, Clarinet, Bassoon, for first-class Provincial Cinema Orchestra. Terms to CHAS. KEETON, Town Hall, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, good Violin and 'Cello, to start at once; three performances daily; no Sundays; terms £3 weekly; good references. Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, St. George's Cinema, Bexhill.

WANTED, Violinist, for cinema trio; lady or gent.; thoroughly experienced or useless; open Jan. 21; twice nightly, two matinées. Terms and references to GLYNN HILL & CO., The Glynn Picture Theatre, Wrexham.

WANTED, for Palace, Ramsgate, good Violinist (permanency). Apply, W. J. ATTACK.

WANTED, for R. N. College, Dartmouth.
Violin, Viola, 'Cello and Flute Players as Cadet Servants.
Must be ineligible.
For particulars, apply, BANDMASTER.

DE WOLFE'S DIRECTION.
157, Wardour-street, W. 1. Gerrard 3623.
WANTED, for Provincial Town near London, Violinist, 'Cellist, and Pianist, lady or gentleman, to open Jan. 21.

WANTED, Juvenile Violinist; a rising young artiste of exceptional promise. Appointment, by letter only, to "M. D.," 21, Inverness-terrace, Hyde Park, W. 2.

WANTED, good Cornet and Drums (Timpani and effects); twice nightly Variety; A.M.U. terms; comfortable engagement. References, &c., to MANAGER, Pavilion, Ayr, Scotland.

WANTED, for First-class Variety Halls.
Liverpool Empire: 1st Cornet Player.
Cardiff Empire: 2nd Clarinet.
Must be experienced in high-class Variety (A.M.U.).
Write, enclosing copies of references, &c., to the ACTING MANAGER, at the Theatre named.

WANTED, good Bass Player; used to Theatre work; to open Jan. 21; permanency for suitable man. Address, terms and particulars, to ERNEST STEVENS, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

Palace Theatre, Bath.
WANTED, to open Jan. 14 or later, good Bass, Flute, also First Violin; terms £1 19s. per week; no mats.; permanency. Apply, with refs., &c., to MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, Double Bass, immediately; afternoons and evenings, permanently. Apply, MR. GILLETT, The Coronet Theatre, Nottinghill-gate, W.

Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra.
WANTED, Second Trombone, used to high-class music; also thoroughly experienced First Violin. Apply, with terms, references &c., to Mr. DAN GODFREY, Director of Music, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

Tower, Morecambe.
WANTED, 'Cello, Cornet, and Tymps. to open March 25; Pictures and Variety. State refs. and lowest salary to A. H. BROWN, 46, Little Horton-lane, Bradford.

WANTED, good experienced 'Cellist, Liverpool cinema; nights only. Terms and refs., CONDUCTOR, 1, Rudgrave-place, Egremont, Liverpool.

WANTED, brilliant 'Cello Player (lady or gent.) for Cinema, evenings only, to commence Mon. next, Jan. 14th ult. Apply, with instrument, any morning till 12.30 a.m., 20, Bouverie-rd., Church-st., Stoke Newington, N. 16.

WANTED, Lady 'Cellist, to start Saturday next; hotel engagement, Eastbourne. Apply, QUEENIE HOWARD, 43, Roland-gardens, S. Kensington.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist; open immediately. Apply, H. HINCHCLIFFE, M.D., The Silver Cinema, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, 'Cellist, immediately; afternoons and evenings, permanently. Apply, MR. GILLETT, The Coronet Theatre, Nottinghill-gate, W.

WANTED, 'Cellist, for Sunday evenings; town. Also 'Cellist for suburbs.
Apply, MADAM MAY WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-st., Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, good Viola, experienced Variety, for Midlands; comfortable engagement. MIDLAND COUNTIES ORCHESTRA SUPPLY, Grantham.

WANTED Known, Organists and Pianists wishing to learn extemporising to pictures should take a course of private lessons at ABBOTT'S ORCHESTRAL SCHOOLS, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, First-class Organist (Grand Organ). Write, 'phone or call, Brixton Pavilion, S.W. Mus. Dir., J. Michaud. 'Phone, Brixton 1649.

WANTED, good Organist (Mustel); must be able to play alone. Apply, between 3 and 5, or after 7 p.m., Cupid's Cinema, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED immediately, Pianiste, for hotel in Yorkshire (inland); good terms W. W., 16, St. Stephen's-avenue, West Ealing.

WANTED, Pianist for Picturedrome, near Manchester, immediately if possible; used to Tavan and Alder arrangements. Apply, with references, M. D., River View, 13, Trafalgar-avenue, Egremont, Ches.

WANTED, First-class Cinema Pianist; 5 hours daily. Terms and references to MANAGING DIRECTOR, Cinema House, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, immediately, Pianist, with songs at piano. Wire, MANAGER, Town Hall, Wells, Somerset.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist; must be experienced and good reader; also Relief Pianist; no Sunday work.
Apply, 2.30 till 10, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Royalty Kinema, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, to complete Quintette, Pianist Solo Violin, and 'Cello; 50 miles from London; no Sunday. Terms and particulars to Box 835, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Piano, Violin and 'Cello, pictures, 5 hours daily. Terms, refs., first letter, ladies or gents., DREW, 22, Lennox-st., Weymouth.

WANTED, first-class Picture Pianist; must be good; to start Monday next. Wire, Apply, Central Hall, Gardner-street, Pendleton.

WANTED, Drummer, for Theatre and Gardens. Apply, DEARLOVE, Opera House, Harrogate.

Bandsmen.
WANTED, Smart and Intelligent Boys, between the ages of 14 years and 15 years. Required in the 1st South Staffordshire Regiment, to be trained as Bandsmen; parents' consent must accompany application; preference will be given to boys who have a knowledge of music or of reed or brass instruments. Apply to BANDMASTER, Depot, South Staffordshire Regiment, Lichfield.

WANTED, Musicians, all kinds, for West-End Circuit; audition any morning. ABBOTT'S AGENCY, 47, Uxbridge-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Musicians, all lines, for good provincial engagements. MIDLAND COUNTIES ORCHESTRA SUPPLY, Grantham. London office, 34 and 36, Oxford-street.

WANTED, Boy Musicians,
A splendid opportunity exists in a military band for boys anxious to make progress who have some knowledge of the flute, clarinet, cornet, violin, or pianoforte. They must be over 14 and under 15 years of age.
Box 839, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Instrumentalists, Easter, Whitsuntide, and season. Age, refs., &c., to P. H. JEPSON, Mus. Dir., The Palace, Blackpool.

Lytham and St. Annes.
WANTED Known, Musicians (ladies or gentlemen) contemplating entering into engagements for Lytham and St. Anne's Council Bands next season are requested to communicate at once with MR. J. AINLEY, District Secretary, A.M.U., 16, Ferguson-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED KNOWN,
ABBOTT'S ORCHESTRAL SCHOOL and AGENCY.
FINEST TRAINING SCHOOL
in London for Violinistes and Pianistes who wish to become Leaders. Musicians with or without experience should join ABBOTT'S SCHOOL.
A thorough training in Orchestral Organ Playing.
12 Lessons, £1 1s.
Classes daily. Also Thursday evening, 6.30 till 9.30.
APPOINTMENTS FOUND.
Prospectus from 47, Uxbridge-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED Known, Musicians wishing to Enter their Names on the books of the Salon Orchestra Society for engagements, should apply for appointment for audition to be held at Queen's Hall, London, on Jan. 25. Write, WINIFRED DONALD, L.R.A.M., Gen. Secy., Central House, 34 and 36, Oxford-street, London.

Midland Counties' Orchestra Supply, Grantham.
WANTED Known, Leading Provincial Orchestra Providers, Orchestras, Musicians, Music. Telegraphic address, "Symphony, Grantham." London office, 34 and 36, Oxford-st., W.

MUSIC ON HIRE.
WANTED, Mus. Directors and Managers, save time and money. LONDON MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY, supported by leading Cinemas. Music selected to suit Films. Catalogue, 10,000 pieces. Specimen parcel, 1s. 6d. 50 Uniforms on Hire. Music bought and sold. ALGERNON CLARKE, 29, Lonsdale-road, Barnes, S.W. Sole London Agents for SARTORI STRINGS. Used by the leading professionals. Unequalled for purity of tone and durability. Violin, E silk, 6d., A, 7d., D, 8d., G, silver, 1s. 6d., ordinary 8d.; postage 1d.; Viola, 'Cello, Bass, once used, always used.

WANTED Known, to those who wish to enter or improve their position in the Orchestral Profession, the Salon Orchestra Society's Music School offers many advantages for rapid training, with engagements to follow. Secretary, WINIFRED DONALD, L.R.A.M., Central House, 34 and 36, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Musical Directors to write for particulars of EASTON'S MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY; very moderate terms. "Elmwood," Atkins-road, Clapham Park, London, S.W. 12. 'Phone, Streatham 950.

THE CINEMA ORCHESTRA.
Under the direction of MAURICE PIENA.
WANTED, Instrumentalists, including Pianists and Organists, desirous of gaining experience in Orchestral Playing, are invited to join above orchestra. Engagements when proficient. All particulars from SECRETARY, 3, Birchington-road, Kilburn, N.W. 6. 'Phone, Hampstead 7246.

WANTED Known, Music on Hire for Cinemas; all the latest selections, overtures, &c. Cheapest in trade. GOLDMAN'S, 78/80, Ocean-road, South Shields.

WANTED Known, G. A. JAQUES, String or Military Composing or Arranging. 62, Knox-road, Forest Gate, E. 7, or Borough Theatre.

WANTED Known, at Queen's (Small) Hall, London, W., Jan. 25, and onwards, Meetings, Concerts, Lectures, Auditions for membership of the Salon Orchestra Society. Also auditions for musicians and orchestras desiring engagements, London and provinces. Apply, WINIFRED DONALD, L.R.A.M., Salon Orchestra Society, Central House, 34 and 36, Oxford-street, London.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement as Musical Director. R. ALLEN, 30, Freehold-rd., Ipswich.

WANTED, Engt., Mus. Dir. (piano); experienced; good library; could supply orchestra. M. D., Box 845, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Mus. Dir., excellent Violinist, Soloist, for variety, restaurant, or cinema. Splendid library. Diploma, Brussels Conservatoire. Disengaged from Jan. 12 next. Address, Box 789, "The Era."

WANTED Known, well-known Mus. Dir., brilliant solo and orchestral Pianist and Organist (pipe and music), R. Albert Hall concerts, &c.); thoroughly experienced in cinema and theatre work; just concluded 15 months' engagement; will accept first-class town engagement for evenings only; no Sundays; or would deputise; first-class references. "L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.," 26, Coldharbour-lane, S.E. 5.

WANTED, Engt., by Pianist-Conductress; experienced; large up-to-date library.—SILVESTER, c/o Lester, 43, Lichfield-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Eng., Violin Conductor, exempt; brilliant and experienced; Variety, Drama, or Cinema; Midlands preferred; at liberty Jan. 28. Offers to CONDUCTOR, Box 830, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced first-class Violin Conductor, at liberty Jan. 28, to accept good offers; any business; extensive repertoire; ineligible. CONDUCTOR, 3, Peckitt-st., York.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor and Violiniste Leader desire change; both first-class, experienced musicians; hotel, cinema, or any business where good music is appreciated; excellent library. Box 847, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement; excellent Leader Violiniste, with splendid library; 3 years' active as Cinema Mus. Dir.; London required. LIPPEL, 29, Hamilton-street, Camden Town, N.W. 1.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Violinist-Leader; soloist; first-class work; Manchester, Liverpool, or districts preferred. Enquiries invited. Box 849, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violiniste and Pianiste, both excellent soloists, Afternoon Engagement in London; audition mornings. Apply, PIANISTE, 172, Holland-road, Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Violiniste in hotel or café, or Rep. in cinema. DOROTHY VECK, 1, Warrington-crescent, Maida Vale.

WANTED, Engt. by Lady as First or Second Violin or Rep.
Box 850, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Violiniste; own library if required. EDITH L. MAINWOOD, G.S.M., 27a, Gravenstone-street, Balham.

WANTED Known, Violiniste and Pianiste (Ladies) disengaged Jan. 21, Cinema experience; own library; MISS E. MAY, 130, Abbott's-road, Southall, Middlesex.

WANTED Known, Lady Violiniste and 'Celliste desire engagement; thoroughly experienced; own library if necessary; West Coast preferred. Box 831, "The Era."

WANTED, Deputising or Evening Engagement by Violiniste. E. RICHMOND, 25, Sutton Court-road, Chiswick, S.W. 4.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced First-class Violinist; London, and good offers only. VICTOR, 39, Thorney Hedge-road, Gunnersbury, Chiswick, W. 4.

WANTED, by experienced Violinist Soloist (ineligible), London Engagement; hotel, whole time; cinema, only evening; highest references; own fine library. Box 860, "The Era."

WANTED Known, First-class Solo Cornet at liberty. Cinema preferred. Town only. H. G., 16, Becondale-road, Norwood, S.E. 19.

WANTED, Eng. by Solo Cornet; disengaged Jan. 12; not eligible; first-class Variety or best offers only. Reliable; any business, and best refs. Apply Box 827, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Clarinet Player; thoroughly exp.; good offers; London only; would deputise. Apply, ROBERT MALBRECQ, 11, Algernon-road, Kilburn, N.W. 6.

WANTED Known, disengaged shortly, MISS MAUD JONES, Double Bass; thoroughly experienced. Address, King's Theatre, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

WANTED Known, Double Bass, thoroughly exp.; reliable and competent, any business, completing eng. at a high-class Picture House. HARDCASTLE, 203a, Antrim-rd., Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, well-known Lady Bass and Cornettist, thoroughly experienced all business. PENNINGTON, 27, Girdlers-rd., W. 14.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass, also Violinist, Combined Engagement preferred; pianist could join, evenings only, if near London. Box 848, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Engagement as Trombone, touring, &c.; disengaged Jan. 16. SMITH, Midland Theatre Orchestra, Manchester.

WANTED, engt. by Trombonist, exp. Theatre or Variety; good credentials; A.M.U. Box 851, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class lady 'Celliste, (French medallist) requires engagements or deputations, Sundays only (in town); also evening deputations. CELLIST, 29, Tavistock-square, W.C. 1.

WANTED, Eng. as 'Cellist or Pianist; good terms; Pictures or Café; end of Jan. 'CELLIST, 27, Milton-pl., Halifax.

WANTED, Eng. by thoroughly experienced 'Celliste; Brighton or Manchester preferred; at lib. Jan. 14. Letters to Box 829, "The Era."

WANTED Known, 'Celliste desires practice with Trio or small engagement; some experience; North preferred. Box 832, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, engagement in London or suburb: evenings only. Address, 'CELLIST, 8, Arnold-rd., Tooting Junction, S.W.

WANTED Known, Brilliant Cinema 'Cellist, disengaged; good offers: London preferred. 38, Cavendish-road, S.W. 12.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, deputy engagements only; afternoon or evening; experienced any business. 74, Clapton Common, E. 5.

WANTED by 'Cellist, thoroughly exp., eng. in Cinema; evenings only. 'CELLIST, 31, Howley-place, Paddington, W. 2.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, brilliant soloist and orchestral player, permanent engagement; S.W. preferred. Box 839, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Orchestral Pianist-Organist, engagement in town. Address, PIANIST, 50, Hilldrop-crescent, Camden-road, N.

WANTED Known, experienced Cinema Organiste for Orchestra desires re-engagement; at liberty Monday next; London only. M. B., 2, Bedford-road, West Green, N. 15.

WANTED, by Lady, afternoon engs., also Wednesday and Sunday evenings, as Solo or Orch. Pianiste-Organist. M. GIDDINGS, 26, Dulwich-rd., Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, by Pipe Organist, deputy work, Mon., Tues., Wed., and Fri. afternoons, Solo or Orchestral. HUNT, 63, Pentonville-rd., N. 1.

WANTED, by Pianiste, Engagement with Concert Party; good refs.; disengaged. Box 811, "The Era."

WANTED Known, MISS LANGFORD, accompanist, for orchestra or concerts; sight reader; evenings only. 20, Lambourn-road, Clapham.

WANTED Known, Pianiste, at liberty Monday, can accept engagement as relief; experienced. Address, PIANISTE, 130, Abbott's-road, Southall, W.

WANTED, Engagement, London, by Picture Pianist (Lady); orchestral experience; good reader; combine harmonium; salary low if certain. HAYES, 16, Argyle-st., King's Cross.

WANTED Known, Experienced Orchestral Pianiste; good reader; disengaged, pictures or hotel. Box 840, "The Era."

WANTED, by well-known Pianiste, Afternoon Engagement; or would deputise. Box 837, "The Era."

ONLY VACANT DATES, January 28 and February 4.

A CHRISTMAS DREAM

A MOST DELIGHTFUL AND ORIGINAL MUSICAL PLAY, by our YOUNGEST PLAYWRIGHT,
VINCENT DOUGLASS (Author of "The Jeffersons," etc.).

Every Record at the WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON (since opening ten years ago), beaten by this charming Christmas production.

AN IDEAL ATTRACTION FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN.

A Company who exactly fill the various characters and never once out of the picture.

FRED. SINCLAIR. THE TWO CURES. WILFRED E. SHINE.

Several Clever Children. Dainty Dancers. Beautiful Scenery. Charming Costumes.

35 TRAVELLED.

This Week—OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON. CAN ARRANGE PRODUCTION FOR CHRISTMAS, 1918.

SOME PRESS OPINIONS:—

"'A Christmas Dream' is one of the most charming musical plays ever written."

★ ★ ★

"A delightful story for all ages by all ages."

★ ★ ★

"Produced in admirable manner by Wilfred Shine."

★ ★ ★

"Humour, vivacity, refinement, imagination, tenderness and beauty."

★ ★ ★

"A triumphant success."

"The 'Two Wonderful Cures' are amazingly clever juvenile dancers."

★ ★ ★

"Wilfred Shine was absolutely in his element and gave a magnificent performance."

★ ★ ★

"Fred Sinclair and Jack Austin are admirable and very effective as the 'Two Waiters.'"

★ ★ ★

"Hugely enjoyed by packed houses at every performance."

"The 'Toyland' scene is a masterpiece."

★ ★ ★

"Original dances, haunting music, beautiful scenes, and brilliant acting."

★ ★ ★

"A predominance of marvellous children who charm and delight."

★ ★ ★

"The clever author, Vincent Douglass, has scored a triumph, another evidence of the versatility of our youngest playwright."

THE SUCCESS OF THE SEASON.

"THE JEFFERSONS."

WILFRED SHINE in his Original Characte . Second Tour commences in February and right through 1918. Booked at Manchester, Sheffield, Birmingham, Bristol, Llandudno, New Brighton, Birkenhead, Bootle, Dewsbury, Rochdale, Bury, Barrow, Oxford, Leamington, Buxton, Lincoln, Warrington, etc. **Vacant Feb. 11, April 1, 8, 15, 29, and onwards with exceptions.**

Apply A. DOUGLASS, Winter Gardens, NEW BRIGHTON.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, at liberty, thoroughly experienced Lady Relief Pianiste (not orchestral). PIANISTE, 33, Sandmere-rd., Clapham-rd., S.W. 4.

WANTED Known, Mme. LOUISE RODGERS, Pianiste; brilliant soloist, concerts, halls, or drama; cinema. 94, Edith-road, West Kensington.

WANTED, Engt. by Pianist (solo); very large repertoire; experienced pictures and variety. Box 628, "The Era."

WANTED, by Pianist-Accompanist, Re-engagement in first-class musical act; good credentials; disengaged end of January. Box 836, "The Era."

For the Children of Fallen Soldier Musicians.

WANTED Known, the Salon Orchestra Society's Music School offers free training, with engagements to follow: Four vacancies open for competition on Jan. 25 at Queen's (Small) Hall, London. Enclose stamp for particulars. WINIFRED DONALD, L.R.A.M., Gen. Secy., Central House, 34 and 36, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED Known, Drums and Tympani, &c., at liberty. Apply, 178, Euston-road. ALF. PEEL.

WANTED Known, a Trio desires Re-engagement in cinema, London and district; hall being closed shortly; good offers only entertained. Apply, VIOLINIST, Box 838, "The Era."

WANTED, by well-known Quartette (one family), Piano, 1st, 2nd, and 'Cello, engagement in Cinema; London or Suburbs preferred; could open Monday next; high-class Musicians and Picture-Players; large and select library; terms moderate. Apply, M. D., 6, Greenside-rd., West Croydon.

WANTED, Managers requiring High-class Orchestra should 'phone Museum 526, or write, WINIFRED DONALD, L.R.A.M., Salon Orchestra Society, Central House, 34 and 36, Oxford-st., London.

WANTED Known, a two-manual Pedal Organ has now been installed at ABBOT'S ORCHESTRAL SCHOOLS. Private practices may be had. 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for Tenting Season, commencing end of March, Artistes in all lines of the equestrian business; also good Speciality Acts that can be worked in ring. Address, D. TAYLOR, 46, Dora-rd., Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artistes in all lines; for John Duffy and Son's Big Circus, to commence April 1, 1918; nothing too big, nothing too clever for this tour; those new to Ireland preferred. All coms. to JOHN DUFFY, Circus Prop., Carlow, Ireland.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 14, MLLE. EMMIE FOSSETT'S Speciality Act, Performing Pony, and Dogs, assisted by Comedy Agoust. This week, Waverley Market, Edinburgh. Dates to follow Edinburgh, North or South.

WANTED, ROLLO, Acrobat on the Rope and Partner. This week, Grand, Aberaman. Liberty Monday, one week.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain and Ireland.
Registered under the Trade Union Acts, 1871-1913.

WANTED Known, Annual Meetings, Manchester, Jan. 14 and 15; London, Jan. 22.

Monday, Jan. 14, at the Black Lion Hotel, Salford,
For Delegates only, at 3 p.m.
First Meeting of the Guild Central Council. Business: Central Council Procedure, and Agenda for the Annual General Business Meeting.

The General Business Meeting will be held in the Caxton Hall, Salford, at 3 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 15, for Members only. Business: Confirmation of the Registered New Rules, the Annual Report, the Financial Statement, Election of Officers, the Guild Benevolent Fund, and Organising of Branches.

The London Meeting will be held in the Islington Palace, next to the Agricultural Hall, Jan. 22, at 3 p.m. prompt (By kind invitation of T. E. Read, Esq.). Speakers: The President (Pat Collins), Marshall Hill (Vice-President), and the Rev. T. Horne, Senior Chaplain and Secretary.

Branch Delegates are hereby summoned to attend all these meetings.

Allies' Bazaar,
333-337, Mare-street, Hackney, London, E. 8.

WANTED, for immediate and future dates, Novelties and Side Shows of all descriptions; every comfort. Refer to Frederick Kempster, John Chambers, Saharet, &c., &c. Big prominent space on front for 1913, 12½ by 10½ ft. Best position in London. State rock bottom salary, first letter. People who wrote in before the holidays kindly write again. Also, will let space for any really new and superior games, &c. We want workers in all departments, at all times. (Open 7 days a week.) A large Garden (12,000 square ft.) now being prepared for the summer. Open 5 months and still going strong. A comfortable "pitch" for the duration of the war. Apply, ALLIES' BAZAAR, 333-337, Mare-street, Hackney, London E. 8.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Music, Piano, Orchestra, for Cinema. By appointment. SHURMAN, 67, Perham-road, West Kensington.

WANTED, to Sell, quantity of Piano Music, by Cinema Pianist, giving up. Assorted parcels of selections, overtures, intermezzos, &c., 25 pieces, for 3s. 6d. Box 833, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Original Sketches, Duos., Monos., and Songs; ideas written up. F. WARREN, 6, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, to Sell, Gramophone, 35-guinea model, 4ft. inlaid Sheraton cabinet. Record cupboard enclosed, with records, £3 3s. 35, St. John's Wood-road, Maida Vale.

WANTED, to Sell, Furs, black, £10 10s. set; fashionable whole skin Tanjo Stole and latest Round Muff; new this year; accept 2½ gns.; approval willingly. 3, Aubert Park, Highbury, London.

WANTED Known, Memos., two colours, full size, 100, 2s. 6d., carriage paid: little ones, 100, 1s. 6d. Mention paper for free samples. WINSKILL, Printer, Buxted, Sussex.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED to Purchase, quantity tip-up chairs. Lowest price. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, two Strong Hampers, also dry storage for same, near Shepherd's Bush. Box 842, "The Era."

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to secure Lease of a Provincial Theatre, &c. MURRAY KING & CLARK, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

WANTED, to Let, Advertisement Rights, Theatre Royal, Bath; curtain and programme. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, a Gentleman as partner, who can play piano and violin. Address, O. H., 95, Brook-st., Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Eng. by Tumbler and Knockabout; at liberty to join first-class troupe as Partner, Jan. 21; discharged. BELL, O.H., Leicester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Acts of all descriptions, for Monday next.
Full particulars,
FRANK BOYCE'S Theatrical and Variety Agency, 45 and 46, Chandos-street, Charing Cross, London, W.C. 'Phone, Regent 5529. Wires, "Knarforce, London."
Will Messrs. Rell and Butt kindly communicate, important?

Compliments of the Season.
Pacey's Agency.

WANTED, Big Acts up to £100, for 1918; also acts at all prices at once. Send date sheet and terms to TOM PACEY, Kelham, Newark.

WANTED, Monday next, for Swindon, must be new to the town, Big Speciality Act, Musical, Acrobatic, or any other First-class Act, for six or twelve nights. Wire absolute lowest net.
MORTON POWELL,
Empire Theatre, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, immediately, Small Variety Acts. Wire, MANAGER, Town Hall, Wells, Somerset.

WANTED, Refined Variety Acts for Monday; new to Bedford. Full pars., K. H. AAEN, 288, Brockley-road, S.E. 4.

WANTED, Variety Acts of every description, to open at once.

State all particulars in first letter to
ALBANY WARD,
Guildhall Chambers, Weymouth.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Big Specialities, Novelties, Troupes, First-class Singing and Dancing Acts, &c., for the following dates:—Jan. 21 and 28, Feb. 4, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Acrobat, Comedy or Straight, for double act fully booked. Only first-class artiste apply.

Box 844, "The Era."

WANTED, Artistes visiting Ireland, for one of the leading picture and variety theatres in the provinces. Apply, giving particulars and lowest terms, also vacant dates,
Box 853, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit.
Pavilion Theatre, Leicester.
WANTED, Wanted,
Good Comedy Revues.
Strong Star Tops.
Also Acts of every description, for Immediate and Future Dates.
Acts and Revues unknown to this Circuit entertained for trial week.
All coms. direct to the Manager, JOSEPH LAWRENCE. 'Phone: 2533 Leicester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED Known, CISSIE FRENCH, Refined Character Comedienne. Jan. 7, Palace, Stapleford. Vacant Jan. 14, on.

WANTED, Engt. by TINA PAGUOLA, unique mimic of instruments, babies, &c. Booking up "slow and sure." Last week, O.H., Tunbridge Wells. This week, O.H., Tunbridge Wells. Next week, Pal., Southampton. Vac. Mar. 4, Apr. 15, May 6 (and a few more).

WANTED, Jan. 14, 28, precede and follow Gloucester, by JEAN BRODIE, Winsome Scot, in song and dance. Wire, Pal., Plymouth.

WANTED, MARGARET BRIERLEY, Monday next, Jan. 7; expert instrumentalist. To save time, 23, John-street, Tyldesley, Lancs.

WANTED, Jan. 14 and 28, by the charming and talented
SISTERS WEBB,
Brilliant Musical Mélange.
E., Bedford. Coms., Jojo Webb, 43, Batoleuch-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, MADAME ZILLAH'S GAIETY GIRLS (late Juveniles). Refined Song and Dancing Scena. Vacant Jan. 14 (to precede Horwich), also Jan. 28. Wire, Hippo., Lancaster.

WANTED, Monday and onwards, by LE KER (late R.G.A.). The Master Mimic of all kinds instruments, animals, birds, wild beasts, &c. Has topped many bills with great success since leaving his regiment, owing to injuries, after 18 months' active service. Wire, P. A., 38, South Market-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 21, by WILL CORNISH, the Musical Bell Expert; Silver Chimes and Silver Handbells. Wire, Empire, Swadlincote (near Burton-on-Trent).

WANTED, Jan. 14 and 28, by COVERDALE, Comedian, from London Coliseum. This, sole top, Palace, Bradford. Jan. 21, New, Northampton (3rd return). House, 4, Howard-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Feb. 4, 11, and 18, by LILY ASH, in original comedy songs and patter. Lyric, Liverpool.

WANTED, Jan. 14, onwards, by the FAMOUS GUTHRIE, Mus. Comedian and Speciality Dancer, Revue, Panto., or Var. 28, Prince's-st., Rotherhithe, S.E.

WANTED, WAL and ROSA, Star Comedy Patter Act. Huge success at Tiv., Dublin; Palace, Cork; Hulme Hippo., Manchester; and all along the line. This, Col., Kettering. Vac. Monday. Wire.

WANTED, Mon. next by JAY HUDSON, the Versatile Dancing Entertainer, in White. Also CLARA BELL, the Girl with a Beautiful Soprano Voice. Wire quick for Monday, HUDSON, 41, Kingswood-road, Gillingham, Kent.

WANTED, Monday next, by RAYMOND and IVY, talented vocalists and dancers. Wire, Whitehall Palace, East Grinstead.

WANTED, Feb. 4, 11, 18, Myles Brummell and Gracie Rogers, in Comedy, "Twists and Twirls."

Until Jan. 26, Grand Th., Hull.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, for Jan. 21, THE MARTINIS and VIE GOLD, the Famous Cabaret Dancers and Vocalists.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
This week, Empire, York.
Next week, Empire, Mansfield.
Own Elaborate Draperies.
Enormous success everywhere.
Refer Managers.

THE MELFORDS,
Burlesque Eccentric Dancers.
WANTED, Jan. 14, 21, &c. Wire. This, Kino, Jarrow, or 15, Caledonian-rd. Note.—Gent. permanently discharged.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 14 and 28, by TORRIE and POWELL, in the Vocal and Musical Scena, "Hidden Harmony." Wire or write, Picturedrome, Longton, Staffs.

WANTED, Feb. 11 and 18, by The BROS. WEBB, Musical Comedians, Hengler's Circus, Glasgow.

WANTED, Mon. next, also Jan. 21, by THE SANGERS, the Sensational Daring High Pedestal Dancers, with their grand electric fit-up; a good top-liner. Wire, 10, Vaughan-place, Ruby-st., Old Kent-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Mon. next, also 21 and 28, by BUNNY and DAWE, Comedy Speciality Act; a sure success. Wire, 46, Clifford-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester; or 'Phone, 5095 City, Manchester.

WANTED Known, the MUSICAL BELL-HATTONS, vacant Jan. 21, between Collins's and Falmouth; also Feb. 11 and 18, between Plymouth and Lincoln. Write or wire, Playhouse, Hitchin, or 11, Brunswick-road, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 14 (between Port Talbot and Luton), PHIL REES' LITTLE COPPERS. Jan. 7, New Theatre, Port Talbot, South Wales. Wire or write for terms, direct or principal agents.

WANTED, Monday next, also 21, ALBERT, Ventriloquist, and his novel Electric Dancing Figure. Offers to 10, Naylor-rd., London, S.E. 15.

WANTED, by BERT WILLIAMS, Ventriloquist, Jan. 21 and 28. This week, Queen's, Holbeck, Leeds. Next week, Palace, High Shields.

WANTED, Jan. 14 and 21, SIMOSA SAN, Lady Juggler and Performing Pigeons. Wire, Pavilion, Wick, N.B.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 21, the artistic, new, and novel Speciality from the London Hippodrome. Zeno, the incomparable revolving globe performer and speciality juggler. Monday next, Grand Theatre, Walsall. Another big success at the Borough Theatre. Wire, ZENO, 93, Walsall-rd., Wednesbury.

WANTED, Jan. 14, the GREAT CARELO, modern novelty, comedy hand and foot juggler. 17, Parkfield-avenue, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, Mon., Jan. 14, 21, by ALBERTA, College Boy Contortionist. Thanks for offers last week. Wire, 17, Bridson-st., Weaste, Manchester.

LES PLATAS, Spanish Acrobats and Tumblers.

WANTED, Feb. 4, 11, 18, to follow Wellesend, on the way to Birmingham. This, Bulwell Olympia. Next, Gateshead Palace.

WANTED, Monday next, by FANDOR TROUPE, Lady Acrobatic Trick Cyclists. Another big success at Empire, Swindon.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 14, onwards; PALETTE, Fiddle, Easel, Dogs. Wire, Hippodrome, Peterborough (3rd visit).

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Feb. 11, and various on, for LILIAN BEAUMONT'S screaming sketch, "Sally Mine." This, Palace, Wareham; next, Salisbury.

"Getting the Dinner In."
"Getting the Dinner In."
The famous Dame Skit.

WANTED, Monday next. This week, Court Theatre, Warrington, with G. Pattman, Esq. Also vacant Jan. 21, 28, and Feb. 4. Wire, POWELL and BRITTAIN, Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, Monday next, and Jan. 14, MAURICE LOVE & CO. in the Laughing Successes "The Model Laundry," "The House Factor," and "Arrival of Jimmy Wilde." Wire, 23a, Montgomery-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, April 1, 8, 15, by Richard Oliver and Co. in
"MY LADY BETTY."
"MY LADY BETTY."
"MY LADY BETTY."
A Romantic Comedy Episode of 1770.
By Vincent Gordon-Correlli.
Plays 20 minutes.
Moss, Stoll, Controlling Tours.
Wanted April 1, 8, 15, North or Midlands. This, Empire, Southend-on-Sea. Next, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

"Self-Defence."
Comedy-Dramatic Playlet, written by Denton Spencer.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 11, 18, 25. Return visit to Leeds last week was hailed with great enthusiasm. Address this week, ALBERT BRASQUE, Grand Theatre, Bolton. Next week, 9, Burton House, Myatt's Park, London, S.E. 5.

WANTED, Monday next, by MILLER and MOHAMMED.
Modern Acrobatic Eccentrics.
As usual, topping with success.
Hippodrome, Peterborough.

WANTED, Offers.

HENRY WHITELEY FOUR.
HENRY WHITELEY FOUR.

Acrobatic, Risley, Musical Pot-pourri.
A Clever, Refined Act.
Suitable any programme.
Offers, wire,
Jan. 7, Pavilion, Wombwell, Yorks.

THE BETTER 'OLE TOURS.

WANTED

Young and smart Chorus Ladies for above Tours.

Apply—

Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock to :—

FREDERICK'S REHEARSAL THEATRE,
Maiden Lane, W.C.

COMPANIES WANTED.

W. W. KELLY'S THEATRES.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, first-class attractions only for weeks of June 10 and 17.

TO PLAY ONCE NIGHTLY.

The Shakespeare is *"THE"* Popular Theatre of Liverpool—The Box Office says so.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.

THE PREMIER THEATRE of CHESHIRE.

WANTED, A high-class attraction for week of April 15

TO PLAY ONCE NIGHTLY.

Wire or write to

W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

Wires "Hustler," Birkenhead.

London Representative:
H. W. ROWLAND, 52, Shaftesbury Ave.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!
MARCH 4 and on.
MARCH 4 and on.
MARCH 4 and on.

For COSMO HAMILTON'S Famous Emotional Play,

THE BLINDNESS OF VIRTUE

A study of English family life which breathes humanity in every scene. A strong Play with a Purpose. This production superbly mounted. Everything carried.

PORTRAYED BY A POWERFUL CAST.

WANTED DATES.
MARCH 4 and on.
MARCH 4 and on.
MARCH 4 and on.
Once or Twice Nightly. Theatres o. Music Halls.

Managers requiring a Box Office certainty, 'phone, wire or write

GRAHAM POCKETT & ELIOT STANNARD.
85, Holbein House, Sloane Sq., London, S.W.1
Phone: Vic. 497.

GLADYS ARCHBUTT & A. E. STORY
PRESENT
YOURKE CHALLENOR
IN
OH! I SAY!!
THE FAMOUS CRITERION FARCE.
NEW DRESSES. NEW SCENERY.

A few Music Hall or Twice Nightly Theatre Dates WANTED for Spring Tour.

All communications to Gladys Archbutt and A. E. Story's Enterprises. New Address, 4 & 5, 18, Charing Cross Road.

A ROYAL DIVORCE.
WANTED,
for this phenomenal attraction, weeks of FEB. 11 and APRIL 15.
The greatest play of modern times, which has revisited every city in the kingdom oftener than any other in the annals of the British stage and is always received with unbounded enthusiasm.
Recent takings:—
Birmingham, nearly £1,600.
Belfast (5 nights), over £900.
Warrington, over £500.
Write immediately to
W.W.KELLY, New T.R., Birkenhead,
Wires to "Hustler," Birkenhead.

THEATRES WANTED.

UGAR AND LANGLEY'S COMPANY.

CRACKERS
THE CRACK REVUE

The Finest Combination of Talent Touring. All Recognised and Competent Artistes.
Dressed and Mounted equal to any London Production.
AND A REAL BEAUTY CHORUS.

CRACKERS.
Thanks Messrs. Cohen & Barnard for five contracts, immediately after seeing the show.

VACANT, Monday Next
(Midlands).
JAN. 28, FEB. 11, 18, MARCH 4 (South).

WIRE. WIRE. WIRE.
UGAR,
PALACE OF VARIETIES, CHATHAM (Return).

ANNIE LAURIE
The Musical Play.

The Proved Success. Third Year of Tour. No Weeks Out.
Refer anywhere the Company has visited.
Returns everywhere beat original visits.

SCENERY AND DRESSES THE TALK OF EACH TOWN.
Beautiful Printing.

SHARES or CERTAINTY. THEATRES or MUSIC HALLS.

WANTED Jan. 21 and 28, onwards.

Wire or write:—
DENVILLE, 32, Charlotte Street, OLDHAM.

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JAMES AMPHLETT,
Clerk to the Council.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.

WANTED BIG MUSICAL PRODUCTION, Once or Twice Nightly. Feb 11, March 11? April 29, May 6 (three nights only), May 20? 27? June 3, 10, 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 on, with exceptions. Spring and Autumn Bookings include—

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WANTED BIG PANTOMIME XMAS 18–19.

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YE GODS. Vacant Jan. 28, and Feb. 18.

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THE LIFEGUARDSMAN. Vacant Feb. 25, March 11, May 20, July 8 and 22.

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V.A.F.F. AND I.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, in view of the present financial position of the Benevolent Fund, have generously granted a donation of £50 as a New Year's gift towards the upkeep of the institution at "Brinsworth," and express their hope that this acknowledgment may be the means of inducing other friends of the variety stage to come forward.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild is also sincerely thanked by the committee for sending down at Christmas-time two large parcels of warm clothing for the old folks at Twickenham, which were greatly appreciated.

Christmas Day at the institution was celebrated as merrily as possible, and all the old folks were loud in praise of the arrangements made, and the presents and gifts sent showed they were not forgotten. Mr. George Graves, the president, sent a wire from Brighton with his good wishes to all, and ordered his loving cup to be filled up with wine, which was readily done, and his health drunk enthusiastically. (Mr. Graves requested a repetition of this ceremony on his birthday, New Year's Day.) The residents sat down to an excellent dinner, consisting of goose, plum pudding, mince pies, cake and fruit, the pudding and the cakes being Mr. Joe Elvin's usual thoughtful present. Several visitors called in to wish the old, old greeting, and to have a chat with the "boys and girls." They included Miss Marie Kendall, who brought with her port wine and whiskey, and gave each one a shilling; while Mr. and Mrs. Floyd, of Twickenham, called in and gave cigarettes and tobacco and more "filthy lucre." Mr. and Mrs. Thornton, the superintendent and matron, did all they could to make the time pass happily, and were thanked by everyone for a jolly day.

The special appeal for the New Year's Old Folks' Treat has resulted in exactly £20 being raised, which will probably be within a pound or two of the amount spent. Donations received and not acknowledged include: Miss Lottie Albert, £1 1s.; W. Bellamy (in thanks to Ernie Mayne for permission to sing song), £1 1s.; W. H. Atlas, Vulcana Troupe (sale of postcards), 10s.; Tucker Williams (St. Margaret's), 10s.; Charles Coborn, 5s.; Mrs. Charles Coborn, 5s.; R. W. Venables, 2s. 6d.; Herbert Burney (the Zenith), 2s. 6d.

Maurice in a week or two made a special collection for Mr. George Graves's appeal, and obtained £2 13s. 6d., for which he is sincerely thanked by the president and the committee.

Mr. H. Linden (of Linden and Berridge) is also warmly thanked for the two excellent suits of clothes he so kindly sent down to the institution, which were just what was needed at the moment, and the recipients are very grateful. Clothing of all kinds is always welcomed at "Brinsworth."

The kind donor of the 17 lb. pike to the institution was Mr. Wal Pink (a vice-president of the fund), who has also promised further supplies of fish. The committee sincerely thank him, and so do the old performers.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Excellent fare is provided here this week. The ladies' orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Victor Willis, does yeoman service; Charles Austin, of "Parker, P.C." fame, has found a winner in his new farcical sketch, "Parker's Appeal." Contrived in three acts, Parker is shown as a bibulous brewer's man, who is summoned before the tribunal for 7 o'clock. Other misfortunes fixed for the same hour may be mentioned: a judgment summons and a visit from a pugilist. In the second act Parker is busy enlarging his experience outside the Town Hall tribunal, and in the third act Parker is arraigned before the committee to answer his country's call. This scene proves a veritable shriek, for Parker is here at his best, and his antics irresistible. His final "patriotic" appeal, in which he hopes not to be called up till the end of the war, is but one of the deliciously droll items in "Parker's Appeal."

Miss Susie Marpey tells of one Sergt. Lee, who has some mystic connection with raspberry jam. Her second contribution deals with the cinema idol, Charlie Chaplin. Her efforts were rewarded with a double call. Modern necromancy is represented by Mr. Oswald Bemand, who performs a variety of wonderful feats, which are greatly appreciated. A word of praise is due to his marvellous pigeon, Jem, who is as near human as a pigeon can be. Koko, another of the feathery tribe, is equally clever. Oswald gives a good show.

A refined and capital skit is given by Armstrong and Howarth. Their patter is particularly smart. A fine soprano, Sylva Van Dyck, invested the Spring song with artistic feeling, and scored a success with a voice of remarkable compass. Ida Long, an especially bright comedienne, and Messrs. Haston Mills and Tuck (of the Versatile Four) add hugely to the success of the programme. The Spanish jugglers, La Bas Duo, complete a most attractive programme. Mr. J. Persich, the popular manager, who is engaged "doing his bit" during the day, is faithfully at his post in the front of the house every evening.

Ohmy, the well-known circus proprietor, who resides in Blackpool, sent a telegram of congratulation and good wishes for the New Year to His Majesty the King on Monday, and on New Year's Day he received the following telegram in reply: "I am desired to express His Majesty's thanks to you and your company for your loyal good wishes, and which are heartily reciprocated.—Private Secretary."

In consequence of the delay in receiving the parts from Italy, the novelty announced for the first of the four Subscription Concerts at Queen's Hall on Saturday afternoon next cannot be given on that date. Apart from this, the scheme is of considerable interest. Mme. Zoia Rosowsky, a talented artiste who has won a reputation both at home and in this country, will make her first appearance at these concerts, when she will be heard in Rachmaninov's "Vocalise" (song without words) and Tatiana's letter-song from Tchaikovsky's opera, "Eugene Onegin." The pianist, Mr. Leonard Borwick, will be the soloist in Saint-Saëns's G minor Concerto. The symphony is Beethoven's Eighth (in F). The remainder of the programme includes Wagner's Overture to "The Flying Dutchman"; Arensky's Variations on a Theme by Tchaikovsky, for Strings; and three Spanish dances by Granados, orchestrated by Sir Henry J. Wood, which are repeated "by request."

KILBURN EMPIRE.

A capital programme is presented this week at this popular Gulliver house, and, judging by the enthusiasm of Monday night's audience it is fully appreciated. Ernest Hastings, in songs at the piano, is vastly amusing in his ditties, "At the Future Variety Show," and his military skits including "The Military Representative," and in his imitation of Harry Champion singing a serious song he is a hot favourite. Princess Iwa, the famous Maori contralto, from the Albert Hall, in native costume, in the New Zealand war cry, "Kamate! Kamate!" ("Hail to thee"); the Maori slumber song, "Hasa e Hine"; and a characteristic Maori song, "Waiata Poi," provides a picturesque and striking turn, and sings with great verve.

Fred Barnes, light comedian, in "Samoa," the Hawaian song, "Swance River," and "Alabama," has artistic lightness of touch and youthful vivacity, and his droll stories have a delicate and dilettante flavour, his rendering of "There's a Friend in Every Milestone" being notably good.

King and Benson, in "The Messenger Boy and the Lady Star," submit a bright, exhilarating, and melodious turn that proves most enjoyable. The Seven Nobodies, in their lightning programme of mirth, melody, and dancing, presented by Harry Leslie, are a most attractive turn.

Great is the sagacity of our four-footed friends, and the Stellios, acrobats and canine wonders, perform some marvellous tricks, which the doggies appear to thoroughly relish. Evelyn May, the charming violinist, with her assistant pianist, is well to the fore; and the Great Maurice, the clever card manipulator; Athas and Collins, in prototypes of English comedies; and Dusty Rhodes, the well-known comedian, complete a most enjoyable programme.

A SOLDIER BROS. PANTOMIME.

In an interesting account of a performance of "Dick Whittington and His Cat," given by the R.G.A. Concert Party at Prees Heath, Salop, Mr. F. V. St. Clair writes:—

"When I first made Prees Heath my home I was the star attraction for miles around, and in great demand for charity concerts, but since the camp came my star has waned somewhat. And why? Well, to tell the truth, the R.G.A. Concert Party have quite eclipsed your humble, and rightly so, for they make a grand show.

"The other night I popped in to witness one of the finest pantomimes I ever saw in my life—not even Old Drury could put on a better, excepting as regards the scenery. Then our camp panto. scenery was painted by an R.A. (Royal Artilleryman). We had Tom Barrasford, son of the founder of the Barrasford tour, playing Idle Jack. Tom has turned out a tip-top comedian. He is ably supported by Fred Beighton as Dame, and how well they work together. There were packed houses last week, and thanks to the Colonel Commanding, civilians were admitted, and how the old farmers did enjoy the fare.

"I have seen some pantos. in my time, and when I say I never laughed more than I did at this one I mean it. The singing was all one could desire.

"One of the finest singers I have met was Dick Whittington (Bombdr. H. Court), whose song, "A Little Lane Without a Turning," was excellent. Father Time (Bombdr. Furness Williams) sang "Lullaby" with great effect. The part of Alice was taken by Bombdr. Evans, and what a splendid Alice he made, too; Fitzwarren's part was filled by Bombdr. E. J. Hinge, the writer of the pantomime; Sergt. Lakes (Fred Leighton) made a most amusing Cook, and got endless fun out of the part; Sergt. Smith as the Mate was very good; and the Cat was played by a drummer boy, G. H. Girt. It was his first appearance on any stage, but he is a fine pantomimist. Sergt. Wooley as the Captain was good; The Prince of Morocco was taken by Cpl. C. B. Hay; the Princes' Attendant was a part ably filled by Bombdr. Hempsall; and other parts were taken by Sergt. Brind, Bombdrs. Bentley, Copeland, Gee, Gillespie, and Gunner Furby. Bombdr. Thompson was responsible for the excellent scenery. The orchestra was under the baton of Sergt. Hilbrough; the stage management, under Master Gunner Stanley and Gunner Finch, left nothing to be desired; the whole produced by the kind permission of Lieut.-Col. H. B. Cadell."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

MARRIAGE.

LEA—GARDINER.—On Jan. 4, by special licence, at Lambeth Registry Office, Billy Lea to Minnie Dorothy Gardiner, second daughter of John Gardiner, Esq., and niece of the late T. Gardiner Hales, Esq., supplier of stage properties and trained animals for the principal London theatres.

DEATH.

ROLPH.—At the Royal Infirmary, Leicester. Passed away Dec. 27, 1917. Interred New Year's Day, 1918. R.I.P.

MRS. FRED ROLPH wishes to thank friends for sympathy in her sad bereavement, and also for wreaths sent by Mr. Turner, Opera House, "Mother Hubbard" Co., and staff.

IN MEMORIAM.

EMNEY, FRED.—In loving memory of my adored husband, Fred Emney, who was taken from me suddenly, Jan. 7, 1917.
God bless you, kindest, dearest, truest of men. Always in the heart and thoughts of his own wife, Blanche Emney.
My darling, death can ne'er divide
Hearts by years of true love tied.

EMNEY, FRED.—In loving memory of our darling dad, who fell asleep Jan. 7, 1917. More than loved by his children, Doris, Cecie, Fred, Joan, and Den.
In God's own keeping we leave you, dear.

EMNEY.—In fond and ever loving memory of my dear brother-in-law Fred, who fell asleep Jan. 7, 1917. To live in hearts is not to die. Bess.

EMNEY. — In affectionate remembrance of dear Fred, who died Jan. 7, 1917. In life beloved, in death lamented. Cousin Annie.

RUSSELL.—In memory of Ellen Russell, widow of the late Lawrence Russell, who entered into rest Jan. 12, 1915. Ever present and ever mourned by her daughter, Violet Russell.

Miss Beatrice Wilson has suffered a great loss in the death of her mother, which occurred on New Year's Day. Mrs. Wilson was the widow of Major-General G. A. Wilson, of the 1st and of the Queen's Bays.

PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

(Correspondents are urged kindly to send in with their next weeks reports a full list, with the name of the responsible resident manager, of the places of amusement in their districts. Cinema theatres, with an indication as to whether variety turns form part of the programme, should be included.)

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Tom B. Davis and Philip Rodway; Asst. M., Mr. B. Greaves; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Rushworth.—Pantomime, "Cinderella."

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. J. F. Graham and J. Hart; M., Mr. W. J. Andrews.—D'Oyly Carte Repertory.

REPERTORY.—P., Mr. Barry Jackson; M., Mr. J. Drinkwater; B. M., Mr. Bache Matthews.—"The Christmas Party" and "Trelawny of the 'Wells.'"

ALEXANDRA.—P. & M., Mr. Leon Salberg.—Pantomime, "Forty Thieves."

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; A. M., Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Patrons welcome many old favourites this week in the company responsible for Fred Le Cren's pantomime, "Sinbad." Miss Adah Le Cren is a dashing principal boy with some capital songs; Harry Le Cren is whimsically droll as Mrs. Simbad; while Fred Oxo and Ted Oxo are as happy in their mirth-making as of yore. There are rollicking choruses and some very effective stage pictures.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. H. J. Crane.—Cicely Courtneidge is here with her coadutors, Phyllis Hughes and Jack O'Shea. The pathos and humour of "The Three Cameos," in which studies of the times are presented, afford admirable scope for Miss Courtneidge's talents. Wilson Hallett captivates the house with his child impersonations. Other entertaining turns are provided by Marie Ambrose, Haley's Juveniles, the Mandos, the Edivictas, and Fred Keeton.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Frank Raymond; Asst. M., Mr. Crisford Garton.—Charles Morritt has such command of the occult arts that his show—including his latest sensation, "Tally Ho!"—supplies plenty of thrills. Other features combine to form an exceptionally attractive all-variety programme. High-class music is represented by that accomplished trio, Lily Fairney, Marie Novello, and W. H. Squire, while Harry Bedford, Winifred Ward, Marcelle, Shawlene, and the Havanna Troupe all give of their best.

GAIETY.—P., Mr. B. Kennedy; A. M., Mr. W. H. Hebden.—At the Gaiety likewise it is an all-variety week, with a bill headed by the Bambams, the Cowboy comedians, in their mystery novelties. Other features comprise Martinek's Rag Doll, the Yetmah, the Monzos, &c.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. J. and W. E. Draysey; A. M., Mr. J. Draysey.—Rameses is performing his bewildering magic here. Teddie Le Roy is assisted in her male impersonations by a troupe of well-trained children; and Arthur Haynes, Marie Lawton, Charles Costello, and Violet Stockwell also figure in the bill.

Boots, The Chemists, 32, New-street; 167, Broad-street; 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266-288, Gooch-street; 171, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; Colmore-row and Bull-street.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Lawson Lambert.—"Betty," George Edwardes' production, is here for six nights and two matinées, and on Monday scored a complete success. The interesting plot, illustrated with such taking musical numbers, and the splendid company and chorus, form a rich entertainment. Messrs. Charles F. Cooke, Kenneth Ware, and Myles Clifton are excellent; and Miss Billie Browne immensely attractive as Betty.

PALACE PIER. — M., Mr. J. W. Cordiner. — "The Lady of Ostend" is presented this week to enthusiastic audiences. Mr. Brough gives a performance of Dick Whorles replete with artistic touches, and scores all through. Miss Olga Esmé being charming as the wife. The rest of the company are good, and the funny situations are provocative of continuous laughter.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—S., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—"Brer Rabbit, Brer Fox," is proving an immense attraction here, and is highly esteemed by young folks.

GRAND.—L. & S. M., Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.—"Jack and the Beanstalk" is playing to crowded houses nightly, and at three matinées.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The delicate and brilliant art of Miss Lee White is much to the audiences' taste, and well exemplified in selections given with the support of Clay Smith; Malcolm Scott meets with a boisterously loyal reception; Frederick Kerr is supported by Charles Crawford and Mona Harrison in the taking playlet, "Beautiful Mrs. Blain"; Schreck and Percival are capital comedy duo; and Les Glorias, Harry Halsey, and Nevotte are included in a well varied bill.

Boots, The Chemists, 64, Church-road, Hove; 204, Church-road, Hove; 88, Preston-road; 16 and 18, James's-street; 19, London-road; 158-162, Western-road.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—"Cinderella" has settled down into a steady success here.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. L. J. Baxter.—The bookings are a sure sign of the success of the pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," which still holds sway here, headed by George Formby as "the Terrible Hassarac."

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. Kirkpatrick; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—After a holiday week of variety, the management is now submitting farcical comedy. Messrs. Horsfield and Woodward's company give a bright rendering of "Wanted, a Husband," with Miss Anne Furrell as Mabel Vere, Mr. Hamilton Jordan as Captain Corkoran, and Miss Edith Finlay as the Cook.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. A. Hengler; G. M., Mr. Harry Milne.—The popularity of the spectacle, "Many Waters," continues unabated, and the circus and variety items are all good.

OLYMPIA.—L., Artistes' Agency, Ltd.; M., Mr. David Bowie; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Wright.—Mr. Harry McKelvie's company are this week delighting large audiences with the amusing panto. "Tommy Trotter." There is plenty of fun, singing, and dancing, which makes a dull moment impossible. Favourites are Miss Retta Halkett, Miss Florrie Cameron, Sisters Royce, Jim Bond, and Mr. J. B. Preston.

Boots, The Chemists, Sauchichall-street.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Pantomime.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Pantomime.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., The Palace Theatre Co. (Leeds), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. G. Edward Hall.—A strong variety bill includes Maximilian, the famous chimpanzee; The Royletts, Cissie Cave, Bert Williams, Freda Forbes, Dawson, and The Hackett Quintette.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Captain H. L. Roache; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Bradsell.—Mr. Harry Day is responsible for a dainty success in "Airs and Graces." The company is carefully chosen.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Lieutenant Bertram J. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—For two weeks we have here a visit from Miss Florrie Forde and her fine pantomime, "Robin Hood," played by a strong company.

CITY VARIETIES.—P., Palace Theatre Co. (Leeds), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. Vernon Hague.—A capital bill includes 'Erbert, the Picture House Door Keeper, Southwood and Pink Lady, Two Bessons, Fred and May, &c.

Boots, The Chemists, Boar-lane; 112-14, Briggate and King Edward-street; 7, 8, and 9, Bond-street.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; M. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's pantomime, "Mother Hubbard," is gaily pursuing its career here, and the hard-working and clever combination of artistes engaged have now become big favourites with the public.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Warwick.—Miss Eva Elwes and company are here. On Friday "Maria Marten" is to be revived by Miss Elwes' company.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Trueman Towers; Asst. A. M., Mr. Thomas J. Phillips.—A good all-round bill here includes Bob Anderson and his pony, in a popular turn; George Ackroyd (flautist) and Mario Lorenzi (Italian harpist), in a smart, novel musical show; the Kenna Bros., the funny airmen; Adam Tomlinson, the popular Tyneside dialect comedian; Flora Cromer, a smart comedienne; Manuel Vega, in a good comedy novelty act; and Lorii Conn, with selections on a cornet trumpet. Official news by the War Office Topical Budget is also screened.

PAVILION. — P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—A successful first visit is being paid here by Harry Mears' combination in the revue, "How Ripping," in which pleasing specialities are introduced by Maude Tottle, Harry Mears, Harry Nicholls, Alice Cole, Wee Rene, and the Kinema Kids, talented juveniles. There is plenty of fun and taking songs introduced, together with the Exclusive Girls, in smart dances. Pictures complete.

Boots, The Chemists, 9, Belvoir-street, and 301, Belgrave-gate.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—The "Red Riding Hood" pantomime continues its successful career.

SHAKESPEARE.—Tip-top business follows Mr. H. B. Phillips' grand opera season, seven performances weekly being given. On Saturday last a new Carmen was introduced in the person of Miss Carmen Turia, who, both as actress and vocalist, gave a brilliant presentation of the picturesque Gipsy Girl. A flattering reception was accorded by a packed audience.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Colca.—The programme space is principally occupied by Mr. J. Lever's revue, "Some Girls," which is finding considerable acceptance. Among the capable company engaged are Billy Caryll, Nellie Shaw, Frank Rickards, Mabel Hirst, Nellie Dyson, Sadie Brooks, Hervey Bruce, and the Tivoli Trio. The Brandons provide a musical speciality.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Liverpool Repertory Theatre Co., Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Max Jerome.—Very satisfactory business continues to be done at the daily alternate playing of the pot-pourri, "Fragments," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream," both of which are most artistically presented.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Here we are having the De Costa and Stephens company in "Peaches," a bright and pretty revue, in which are prominent Dolph Wheeler, Vi Davis, Tom Hills, H. Hammond, Madge Haines, Muriel Kelly, J. Stephens, and H. Rennoir. The variety section of the bill finds support from Frank Stanert, laughing musical comedian; the Lincolns (Dora and Rose), comedy entertainers; and Philora, with song and acrobatic dancing.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead & Son; R. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton.—This week Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor," is being submitted with satisfactory result. The leaders are Grace Collins (Sinbad), George Grenville (Dame), Bros. Slater (comedians), Sandy Powell (Tinbad), and Alf. Corri (Captain Scuttle). Specialities are given by Les Marguerites, the Six Drummer Girls, Bros. Slater, and Sandy Powell.

OLYMPIA.—The Drury Lane pantomime, "Puss in Boots," is packing this vast place twice daily.

EMPIRE.—Mr. Albert de Courville's fine revue, "Ocean Waves," which came for six nights, is in its third week, due to big public patronage.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Oldbury Brough.—Jack Pleasants is at the head of an excellent variety list, and there are Beth Tate, with new songs and dresses; Mrs. Bert Gilbert's light comedy, "Music at Home," in which participate George Carvey, Anglo-French baritone; Nan Stuart, musical comedy artiste; Doris Cloud, violiniste, and Dolly Daintree, at the piano; the always welcome Harmony Four; the Biff Girls, cyclists; Jaap Van Laren, on the wire; and Happy Fields, mimic.

Boots, The Chemists, Boots' Corner, Church-street; 11-13, London-road; 1, Leece-street; 203, Scotland-road; 8, West Derby-road; 235, Park-road; 113, Lodge-lane; 79, Wavertree-road; Prudential Buildings, Dale-street; 45 to 47, Lord-street.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The annual visit of the Carl Rosa Opera Troupe opened to a big audience on Monday. The repertoire for the first week comprises "Carmen," "The Tales of Hoffman," "Faust," &c.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—"Mother Goose," Mr. Hart's pantomime triumph, is drawing crowded and enthusiastic audiences.

EMPIRE.—P., Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart.—Mr. Ernest C. Rolls' exhilarating revue, "Hanky-Panky." The principals are Jimmy Godden, who heads the comedians; Harry Ray, Don Mitchell, Dorma Leigh, Olive Weir, Constance Worth, &c. Y. Ghirardy and Roseva Skelton appear in a ballet divertissement, "A Deserted Garden."

HIPPODROME.—P., The Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The two stars here are Mme. Ada Crossley, contralto, and the vivacious and ever-welcome Mr. Arthur Roberts, in selections from his repertory. The company includes Waters and Morris, in "Father and Son"; the Eight Skating Girls; Fanny Wallace, in "A Cushy Job"; Francis and Alfred, comic jugglers; and Marjorie Fulton, chic comedienne.

OXFORD.—P., The Oxford, Ltd.; G. M. & T., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The pantomime "Sleeping Beauty" and comic films are drawing crowded houses.

ALBERT HALL.—Eva Rich, G. A. McNamara, Sydney Lamb, and the great picture spectacle "Civilisation."

Boots, The Chemists, 56 and 57, Snighill; 252-54, West-street; and 2, Regent-street; 599, Attercliffe-road; 7, Netherthorpe-place; 97, South-street; 34, 36, Spittal-hill; 284, Shalesmoor; 183, Attercliffe Common; 760-2-4, Attercliffe-road; 440, Abbeydale-road; 207, Broomhall-street; 6, High-street; 2-4, Duke-street Park; 514-18, London-road, Heeley Bridge; 202, South-street, Moor; 652, Staniforth-road, Darnall; 129, Newbould-lane, Broomhill; 3-5, Middle-road, Hillsborough; 212, London-road.

MANCHESTER.

ARDWICK EMPIRE. M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. A. C. Duncan.—A strong bill here is headed by Hetty King, the popular male impersonator; Tom Clare, the refined entertainer at the piano; and Phil Ray, whose eccentric comedy is, as usual, provocative of huge enjoyment; while another big turn of special excellence is that of Nellie Wigley, the charming "Prince Charming." There are good turns also by Jack Kelling, Ernesto, George Prince, and Victor and Leonard.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT. — P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton.—There are big houses here this week, enjoying Mr. Arthur Rosebery's gorgeous and comic pantomime production, "Aladdin."

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. James Brearley.—Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," an elaborately staged, diverting, and topical show, is attracing packed houses here twice nightly.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek.—Will Dalton's successful comic revue, "Frills and Fancies," featuring the Brothers Hannaway, is doing capital business here.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—Mr. Ernest Dottridge's successful show, "My Son Sammy" (including Arthur White), is playing here to full houses twice nightly.

Boots, The Chemists, 15, 17, and 19, St. Ann-street, St. Anne's-square; 48 and 50, Oldham-street; 39, Market-street.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; R. M., Mr. Wentworth Croke.—"The House that Jack Built" is drawing large audiences.

GRAND.—M., Mr. Frederick Monckton.—"Robinson Crusoe" runs smoothly and merrily along.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. P. J. Brickwell.—Fred Karno's musical sketch, "Nosey Knows," abounds in fun and merriment, the chief producer being that inimitable comedian, George Hestor. The variety part is ably filled by Ernest Shand, whose popularity increases each visit; Rennie and Roxburgh, laughter producers of known worth; and Billy Wells and Eclair Twins, in a series of cleverly executed dances.

HIPPODROME. P., Hippodrome (Nottingham), Ltd.; Licensee & M., Mr. Harry Lyons.—A powerful representation of "A Royal Divorce" was given here on Monday by the well-balanced company of Mr. W. W. Kelly. Miss Mabel Scudamore supplied an intensely dramatic and pathetic portrayal of Josephine, that earned her warm applause. An artistic study of Napoleon came from Mr. George Hudson.

Boots, The Chemists, 22, Goose Gate, Trent Bridge; 48, Arkwright-street; 177-79, Alfreton-road; 126-8, Derby-road; 88, St. Ann's Well-road; High-street and Pelham-street, Exchange-walk; 21, London-road; 181, Mansfield-road; 10, Lister Gate; 1, Angel-road, Market-place; 1, Mansfield-road (corner Shakespeare-street); 269, St. Ann's Well-road, Carrington-street Bridge; 66, Wilford-road.

YORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock, for the Grand Opera House (York), Ltd.—Elven Hedges; Sara Melita, soprano; Petite Nina and her motor-cycling sea lions; Evelyn and Clayton; Shogun and Ryder; The Martinis; Tambo and Tambo; Sharp's Tromboneers.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Henry C. Alty.—Gladys Archbutt and A. E. Story present "Oh, I Say!"

Boots, The Chemists, 30, Coney-st.

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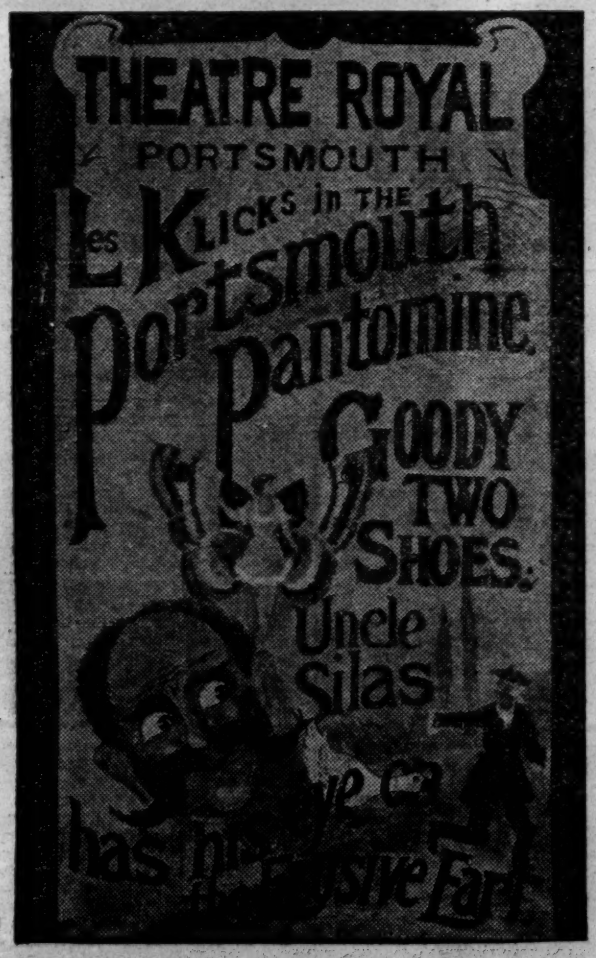

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1918.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

BRIXTON (rehearsal, 12).—Walter Bentley's revue, "Odds On," Ethel and May, Bioscope.
CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—"The Lads of the Village."
EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—Albert De Courville's revue, "Flying Colours."
EUSTON (rehearsal, 12). — Rossi's Elephants, Lee Ephraim's Co., in "After the Trial," Ko Ten Ichi Troupe, Lucille Benstead, Billy Housini and Co., The Bradshaws, The Carruthers, D'Haven and Hart, Geo. Danley, Bioscope.
LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—Marie Lloyd, E. C. Rolls presents "Any Old Thing."
METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—Joe Elvin and Co. in "Bogies," Capt. De Villers' Airship, Dnig Sen Bros., Hayman and Franklin, Foster Kershaw, Ronnie and Roxburgh, Maisie Rowlands, Emilie Lay and Pianist, Bioscope, Hope Charteris.
OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—C. B. Cochran presents "The Better 'Ole."
SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—Corson's Instrumentalists, The Girls from the Golden West, Three Sisters Macarte, Lily and Madge Williams, Geo. Newburn, Molly McCarthy, assisted by Dolly Selwyn, Claude Lester, Haywood and Hay, Bioscope.
TOTTENHAM (rehearsal 2).—Francis Letty presents "Bobo," including Ida Crispi, The Sisters Mestrys, Nan Foster, Norman Field, Bioscope.
WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1).—Albert De Courville's revue, "Joy-Land."
WATFORD (rehearsal 1).—Jack Cromo's pantomime, "Mother Hubbard."

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

BALHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Leo Fritz's Co. in "Introduce Me," The Days, Maggie Carr, Ted Saunders, Bioscope.
CAMBERWELL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Sydney Bransgrove's company in "Two Little Vagabonds."
CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Maidie Scott, Sam Mayo, Mary Mayfren and company in "The Woman of Louvain," Maurice and Assistant, Albert Whelan, Thornley Dodge, Connie Howard, Bioscope, Helen Moray.
CLAPHAM GRAND PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Liane D'Eve, Sammy Shields, Albert Whelan, Anna Dorothy, Shirley and Ransome, The Winston Players, The Hartley Wonders, Bioscope, Vivian Foster.
CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Maidie Scott, Jack Lane, Beaumont Collins and Co., Zetta Mor, Mabel Manson, Wyn and Ivy, Romani, Nina Dumai, The Paget Trio, Bioscope.
CROYDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—George Wayne's company in "The Babes in the Wood."
HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—John Lawson's Co. in "Humanity," The Seven Nobodies, Wish Wynne, Morny Cash, Tom Stuart, Witt and Butt, Dusty Rhodes, The Nondescripts, Aimee Roberts, Bioscope.
HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker's Appeal," King and Benson, Morny Cash, Frank Whitman, Fred Curran, Tom Hearn, the Three Prodigies, the Five Jovers, Bioscope, Dale and O'Malley.
ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime, "Mother Goose," Bioscope.
ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—George Dance's company in "Theodore & Co." Bioscope.
KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime in "Cinderella," Bioscope.
LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Jack and Evelyn, Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker's Appeal," Gus Elen, Geo. Gilbey, Vivian Foster, Isa Wise, Cecil Lyle and Assistant, The Hanlon Charles Troupe, Bioscope.
PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11.30).—Vernon Watson, Little Tich, Ella Shields, Ernie Lotinga and company, Bransby Williams, Neil Kenyon, Coram, Bioscope, George Mozart, The Krakis, The Stellios.
POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Sydney Bransgrove's company in "Her Love Against the World," Bioscope.
PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Joe Collins's Co. in "Sinbad the Sailor," Bioscope.
ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Lane's company in "A Love Chase," Suther, Bioscope.
SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 4).—Hiawatha and Minnehaha, Van Hoven, The Mountebanks, Fred Russell, Maud Aston and company in "Squibs," The Seven le Roys, Witt and Butt, May Levey, Bioscope, Tarjo, Estelle Rose.
WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime "Dick Whittington," Bioscope.
WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Pimple and company in "Father," Marcelle Molray, Fred Barnes, Geo. Gilbey, Will Van Allen, Claude Golden, Torino, Chas. Cohan, Bioscope, Rosie Reyes, Bert Weston.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—"Cinderella."
BRADFORD.—Pictures, Akebono Troupe, Lena and Lewis, Sharp's Tromboneers, Jean and Josie, Grenello, Palles and Cusack.
BURNLEY.—Pictures, Ray Collis, Nippon Bros., Josephine Langley, and company as booked.
CARLISLE.—"Damaged Goods."
HALIFAX.—Walter Bishop's "Dick Whittington."
HUDDERSFIELD. — Pictures, Fulgora, Win and Windle, Sara Melita, "The Meanest Man on Earth," Alf. James Holt, Fred E. Dene, Marie Turner.
SOUTHAMPTON. — Pictures, Atherton and Hyde Siems, "Under Suspicion," The Five Gratos, Madge Vehra, Tina Paynola, Horace Barnes, Joseph Cheetham.
WARRINGTON.—Pictures, Bert Elliott, Calland and Hooper, Stowe Bros., Les Lyons and Laurette, Nina's Sea Lions, Tommy and Yvonne.
Bradford bars Shipley.
Blackburn bars Darwen and Accrington.
Burnley bars Nelson, Accrington, Colne and Rawtenstall.
Warrington bars Earlstown and Widnes.
Southampton bars Eastleigh.
Rehearsal at all halls at 12.

MOSS' EMPIRES.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Three O'Hara Sisters, E. V. Robinson, May Starr, The Mountfords, Tom Wong Troupe, Hedley and Windish.
BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Alice Lakin, Finlay Dunn, McNaughtons, Brinn, Billy Simpson, Gomez Trio.
BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—La Rasoka Duo, Cox and Bubbles, Griffiths and Clare.
BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.15).—Jen Latona, Tommies' Lonely Lassies, Jackson and Jolly, Ethel Fenton, Pasquali Bros., Chas. Kesrac and company.
CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Phil Ray, Nellie Wigley, Three Jees, Marie Kay, Pierce and Roslyn.
CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Trixie Kay, Doris O'Brien.
FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Ford and Truly, Alfredo, Elsie Roby, Pauline Allen, Will Hay, Jerry and Co.
GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"A Trip to Tynemouth."
GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Lawrence Wright Ensemble, Cooper and Lait, Ena Dayne, Bert Terrell, Four Cloveily Girls.
LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—10 Loonies, Sam Burton, Syd Sydney, Alf. E. James and company, Billy Wells and Eclair Twins.
LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"Zig-Zag."
NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Denzios Trio, Chas. E. Whittle, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Professor Earle, Anna Hana, Daunton-Shaw Troupe.
NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Bailie Kaye, Ben Stern, The Doves, Shawlene, Cornalie and Eddie.
SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Baisden, Arthur Cooke, Arthur Woodville, Daly and Healy.
SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Ike and Will Scott's "Babes in the Wood" (Managing Director, Mr. Richard Thornton).
STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Those Four Kids, George French, and company as booked.
SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Seven Days' Leave."
SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Alex Prince, Vera Rooney, Harry Bedford, Spalding and Vanguard, Charley Meteor Trio, Alexander Opera Singers.
WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Mother Hubbard."

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Barts Trio, The Gothams, Flora Cromer, Wieland, Lois Conn, Bioscope.
BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—David Pooe, The Kayanaghs, Bioscope.
CHATHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Manuel Vega, Bicscope.
CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"La Poupee."
HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Rosie Lloyd, Frank and Vesta, Fredk. Kerr and Co., Cruikshank, Bi-Bo-Bi, Ritchie Troupe, Bioscope.
LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Victor and Leonard, Winifred Ward, Belle Davis, Cracker Jacks, Tucker, Bioscope.
LONDON ALHAMBRA.—"Round the Map" revue. Cast includes Violet Loraine, Nelson Keys, and Alfred Lester. (Matinees every day of "Bluebell in Fairyland.")
LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—Violet Vanbrugh and Co. in "The Woman on the Window-sill," (Mark Hambourg, Murphy and Mack, Lydia Kyasht, "A Double Escape," Dan Rolyat, Flying Banvards, Versatile Three, Bioscope.
MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—May Hopkins, Miss Cashmore, Bioscope.
SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Bonaudo, Vera Caine, Roxy La Rocca, Donald and Carson, George D'Albert, Bioscope.
STOLL PICTURE HOUSE (London Opera House).—Pictures and varieties.
WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—George Prince, Ina Hill, Campbell and Brady, Bioscope.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Well and Smith, June and Joan Goods, "Where's the Chicken?" pictures.
BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Day's "Vanity Fair."
GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Wylie and Tate's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."
LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Robin Hood; or, Babes in the Wood."
LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Edeleten and Burns's "Jack and Jill."
MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11).—Wylie and Tate's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."
MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—Laura Dyson's "All Plume."
NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Enardo Brothers, Marjorie Fulton, Marcelle and Partner, Geo. Graves and Co., Jim Nolan, Biff Girls.
PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Mikado Family, Harry Lamore, Jack Boston Trio, Sydney Jay and Assistant, Alexandre, &c.
PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—E. C. Rolls' "Topsy Turvy."
SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—A. P. de Courville's "Ocean Waves."
SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Bandmaster Morris, Harry Halsey, Flying Rees, Harry Brown, Three Bites, pictures.
SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Arty Ash, Regan and Celia, Margaret Halstan and Co., pictures, Great Raymond.
WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Halma, Bob and Harry, Rae Duo, Vesta Tilley, Joe and Willy, &c.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

Rehearsals at each place at 1 o'clock, except Weymouth, at 12.
BRIDGWATER PALACE.—Snowball and Dolia, Frank Maura, pictures.
SALISBURC NEW THEATRE. — "Monty's Flapper" Co.
SALISBURY PALACE.—Four Ascots, The Ballad Mongers, Dan Filmer, Les Noselias.
WESTON-SUPER-MARE PALACE.—"The Crisis."
WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—The Millicent Bradford Trio, Plequay and Imp, Donnovan Russell, The Bellinis, Juno Heather and Jackson Perry.
WEYMOUTH PALLADIUM.—Pictures.
YEOVIL PALACE.—Gicardo, Mabel Adeane.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Tom Clare, May Henderson, Terris and Romaine, Romaine and Dainton, Acheron, Great and Good, Orpheus.
ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—Coyne and Whall, The Merries, Dot Beeston, Syd Roberts, Sisters L'Art, Carmencita, Adof Bignell, and pantomime "Cinderella," Jack Thomas, Reene, and company as booked.
ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Nixon Gray, Diving Belles, Emeric and Ainsley, Mlle. Renee, Rubani Trio, Harrow Bros.
BATH PALACE.—"Mirth and Melody," revue, Carvell and Dora, Bioscope.
BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Elroy, Myra Forbes Trio, Marcski, Effie Mann, "In the Trenches," The Grumblers.
COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Gaby Revette, Park's Eton Boys, Cassis Walmer, The Mandos.
DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE (rehearsal, 1).—"The Happy Day."
DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Warden, Wilmot and M'Farlane's "Sinbad the Sailor" pantomime.
EDINBURGH PRINGLE'S PALACE.—Julian Vedey, Two Cowans.
EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Brydon Philips' pantomime, "Cinderella."
FELIXSTOWE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 2).—The Four Flakes, Dorothy and Victor.
GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Unity Productions present "Babes in the Wood."
GOLDERS GREEN HIPPODROME.—"Damaged Goods" Co.
ISLINGTON PALACE.—Fred Malo and Coombs, Three Velacys, Biddy Doyle, Day Crew, Cole and Russell, Bioscope.
KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Harry Champion, Duncan and Godfrey, Haley's Juveniles, Mulianey Brothers in "On and Off," Artemas, Rex Fox, Stone and Bradley, Gerrard.
LONDON CANNING TOWN IMPERIAL THEATRE.—Four Tommies, Zellini, Joe Archer, Queenie James, James Walsh, Negus, Lomax and Cissie, Conway and Cordwell.
LONDON CANTERBURY. — Robert Croup, Rosemary Lee, Jack Wills, Pathe Gazette, pictures.
LONDON GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 2).—Horsfield and Woodward's pantomime, "Aladdin." Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, at 2.30.
LONDON PALACE THEATRE. — "Pamela."
LONDON VICTORIA PALACE.—Harry Tate, Kirkby and Hudson, Beth Tate, Symphonia, Burr and Hope, Rosie Lloyd, Frank L. Gregory's Troupe, The Joannys, Arthur Haynes.
NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Lew Lake and Co., Arthur Verno, Four Powers, Nora Moore.
PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Revue, "Hotch Potch," Fred Kitchen, Nora Delaney, &c.
READING PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Mr. Alexander George presents Bandola, Orchestra and Character Ballet, Franco's Midgets, Maggie Clifton and Partner, Pathé's Gazette, Fred Keeton, Spence and Jocelyn, Florence Rattray, Flynn and Hayneon.
PLYMOUTH PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Herbert Darnley's "Mr Mayfair," La Payne Five Wartons.
SALFORD REGENT (rehearsal, 11).—William De Lacy's pantomime, "Humpty Dumpty."
SHOREDITCH EMPIRE.—Emerald and Dupre, Three Mervan Girls, Lily Clayton, Pink, E. Newman, Phermos Maourgen and Lady, Kitty Grey.

AMUSEMENTS IN CAPE TOWN.

CAPE TOWN, Nov. 23.—Tivoli.—M., Mr. Moss Alexander; Asst. M., Mr. Prince.—A strong bill was presented here last week. Seymour and Wynne's turn was a great success, and they were recalled two or three times. Lieut. Gordon, the ventriloquist, gave a clever show. Another turn which was very popular was that of Olive and Esme, two young actresses, who sang and danced, the work of Esmé being particularly humorous. Jennie McRae, a favourite here, who possesses a beautiful contralto, sang two or three numbers, including "Old-fashioned House in an Old-fashioned Town." Miss McRae finished last night, and proceeded this morning to Johannesburg, Brightie and Carlyon deputising until the close of the week. A turn which caused much interest was that given by the De Bakers, with their original French creation, "A Visit to the Louvre." Next week Peter Dawson will appear.

BOOKS FOR REVIEW.

The January "Windsor Magazine," price 9d. nett. Published by Ward Lock and Co., Ltd.

During last week, when the Elfin Trio made such a success in Mr. Carlton Fredericks' "Aladdin" panto. at the Theatre Royal, Torquay, they took up collections at several of the performances for the St. Dunstan's Home for Blinded Soldiers with most gratifying results.

Mr. Maitland Dicker, after an illness of over two years from paralysis, died on the 26th ult. He was well known as a theatrical manager, and his last engagement was as manager for Miss Lena Ashwell during the period she was manageress of the Kingsway Theatre.

Mr. Fred Dry, manager of the Royal Hippodrome, Salford, is leaving there on account of his health. Mr. Dry, who has been with Messrs. Broadhead for fourteen years, goes to Grimsby, where he will manage the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee, Mrs. James Macready Chute; M. D., Mrs. Chute and Mr. John Hart; R. M. & T., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Mus. D., Mr. George R. Chapman.—"Old King Cole" is becoming very popular, and the principals are now quite established favourites.
THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Edward Avinal; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin Jacobs.—"Babes in the Wood" is attracting full houses. The principals are all good in their respective parts, and the "two shows a night" has proved as successful in pantomime as it has been in drama.
HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. Fortescue Harrison; Asst. M., Mr. Edward Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—An excellent variety bill includes Ruth Vincent, Dan Rolyat, John Barton and Eva Ashley, Edward E. Ford, the Daunton Shaw Troupe, and the Yelson Trio. "Daily News" in pictures conclude.
EMPIRE.—L. & M., Mr. Sid Macaire; Mus. D., Mr. Bert Hunter.—Messrs. Cory and Sennoi are presenting a musical "Something," entitled "Entre Nous." The cast includes Cora Lingard, Roland Evans, W. L. Rowland, Betty Wright, Violet Vivian, and Fred Marsh. The Rubani Trio, vocalists; and Jack Lenn, comedian. The Topical Gazette are also in the bill. Boots, The Chemists, 13, Queen's-road; 9, 10, Wine-street.

AMUSEMENTS IN DUBLIN.

GAIETY.—M., Mr. C. Hylands.—"Cinderella" is as popular as ever here, full houses being the rule.
QUEEN'S.—M., Mr. C. F. Wright.—"Little Jack Horner" continues its successful run here.
EMPIRE.—L., Mr. B. Armstrong; M., Mr. A. Armstrong.—"Little Boy Blue" has proved the most successful pantomime produced here, and the house is crowded nightly.
THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. J. H. Hamilton.—The Irish matinée pantomime, "Finn Varra Mac," delights large audiences at each performance.
THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. J. H. Hamilton.—The new musical burlesque, "Buttercups," is the big attraction here. Excellent vaudeville turns are supplied by Ian McLean, Scottish comedian, and the Tom Wong Troupe of Chinese jugglers, acrobats, and contortionists.
TIVOLI.—M., Mr. C. M. Jones.—An excellent bill is presented here, headed by "The Cameo Opera Singers." Coyne, a clever juggler; Takace, comedy conjuror; Bert Bradford, in song and patter; Wardini, the mysterious; and Solo, in a comedy act, complete.
ABBEY THEATRE.—M., Mr. Fred O'Donovan.—Much interest centres round the first production of a new play in one act entitled "Spring," by T. C. Murray. It is followed by Mr. J. Bernard McCarthy's two-act play, "Crusaders."

AMUSEMENTS IN DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Licensee & M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. W. Ramsay; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Loseby.—The pantomime "Old King Cole" was presented here last night.
KING'S THEATRE.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; M. D. & Licensee, Mr. W. Firth; M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Hartley.—The place of honour in this week's bill is shared by Cooper and Lait, who score a great success in their burlesque, "Heroes," and Mr. Hymack, who creates endless mirth with his adventures at "Boggy Villa." Prominent also are Will H. Fox, whose comedy piano act is vastly entertaining; John Donald, the well-known Scottish baritone; Harvey King, comedian; Lily Hartley, comedienne and vocalist, Doris Benson and Cupids, in a refined vocal and dancing scena, and the Kingscote comp'ete a capital programme.
PALACE PLAYHOUSE.—Licensee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; M., Mr. J. Beveridge; Mus. D., Mr. J. Murphy.—Excellent business is being done here with the pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," presented by Messrs. Stanley Rogers and R. C. Buchanan.
QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. Arthur Henderson.—Madge Belmont, American illusionist and champion straight-jacket expert, supplements a fine picture programme here. Boots, The Chemists, 14, Reform-street.

Mr. Dorrill, the manager of the New Theatre, Oxford, announces an attractive list of engagements for the coming spring. The bookings include "The Better 'Ole," "The Bing Boys," "Bubbly." Mr. Martin Harvey in repertoire, and Miss Violet Vanbrugh and company in "Mr. Pomeroy's Reputation."

North London has a large and popular bazaar and fun fair adjoining Hackney Station. For the first time since the opening of this establishment, on Sept. 1, the premises were closed on the occasion of the National Day of Prayer.

Mr. Harry Ward, who is well known in the theatrical and music-hall world, is handling such exclusive films as "Civilisation" and "Maternity," which would appeal to every woman in the country. Mr. Ward's address is Motograph House, Upper St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

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At the Hippodrome this week is an admirable production which last night made its first appearance upon any stage. It is a military sketch in the sense that military figures take part in it, but its sole mission is comedy, and right well is that mission fulfilled.
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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

An Honour Richly Deserved.

The name of Miss May Whitty (Mrs. Ben Webster) appears in yesterday's Honours List as a "Dame Commander." The award is given officially on account of work done as "chairman" of the British Women's Hospitals Committee and Chairman also of the Three Arts Women's Employment Fund.

Recognition might also be made of Miss Whitty's services as vice-chairman of "The Era" War Distress Fund, the successful administration of which was due to her patience, tact, and constant attendance. She did not, in fact, miss a single meeting.

Miss Whitty's career on the stage has been a remarkable one. Since she made her London début at the Comedy in 1883 she has played almost every variety of part—comedy, farcical, and romantic—at many West End theatres. She appeared under the Hare and Kendal management at the St. James's in 1885, and three years later was playing leads at the Adelphi. She acted with Kate Vaughan in Old English comedy and followed on with farce at the Strand. Engagements with Henry Irving, Forbes Robertson and other distinguished players are included in a worthy record of stage activity. Miss Whitty figured in the recent successful revival of "Trelawny of the 'Wells'" last autumn at the New.

Miss Laurence Alma-Tadema, who is a playwright as well as a philanthropist, is among the "Honours" as a "Commander" for her services as joint founder of the Polish Relief Fund for Great Britain.

Happy Returns!

Welcome home to Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson, who has just returned from America, where he went to act "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" for the films. Happy returns also of next Saturday, when he celebrates his 65th birthday.

New Theatrical Partnership.

An amalgamation of widespread interest has just materialised by the conclusion of an agreement between Mr. Frederick Harrison and Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie, whereby they will be jointly responsible for the productions at the Haymarket after the end of the run of "General Post." The arrangement provides for the appearance at the historic house of Mr. Dennis Eadie, who will figure in all future productions.

The date of Mr. Eadie's first appearance there cannot yet be fixed owing to the continued success of "General Post," which is now approaching its 400th performance.

Old Drury's Principal Boy.

I learnt on inquiry yesterday that Miss Madge Titheradge, who underwent an operation for appendicitis on New Year's Eve, was a little better. We all hope that she will soon return to grace the stage of Old Drury. Meanwhile her part in "Aladdin" is being sustained by Miss Dorothy Rayne.

Mr. John Galsworthy.

The Press Bureau announces that the name of Mr. John Galsworthy was included by error in the list of Knights in the New Year's Honours List. I understand that Mr. Galsworthy's letter intimating his wish to be allowed to decline the honour which had been offered to him was received too late for the deletion of his name before the publication of the official list.

A Critic's Full Score.

For twenty years past the dramatic criticisms of Mr. J. T. Grein have brightened the pages of the "Sunday Times" and the journal it absorbed, the "Sunday Special," and during that time his graceful and kindly writings have appealed to the profession and the public alike. In referring to the occasion, one of his colleagues writes:—"No critic has 'spotted' so many actors and actresses with potentialities, none has done more to foster a taste for the drama of other countries, none has kept his mind so fresh and his zeal so unabated."

Coming Cash Comedies.

I hear of several plays of self being prepared for production. One is an American specimen just imported, and is called "What Money Cannot Buy!"

Another play of "pieces," of which I have heard very promising news, is by Israel Zangwill, and it is entitled "Too Much Money." It has started rehearsal for presentation at a certain West End theatre, which it would not be fair to name just now.

Our Youthful Manageress.

In a cheery chat which I have been having with the charming Marie Löhr, she described to me certain Lake of Como scenes which occur in the new Somerset Maugham play, "Love in a Cottage," with which she will start her career as a manageress at the Globe on or about the 26th inst. The "Como" business caused me to ask Sweet Marie whether she intended at her newly acquired theatre to appear at any time as Pauline in "The Lady of Lyons." Miss Löhr smiled and answered in the negative—as Parliamentarians put it.

A Broth of a Boy(ne).

Another stage favourite who has developed actor-managerial ambitions is Leonard Boyne. He has three pieces, all of which seem to shape well. "All I now require," said L. B., "is a playhouse to put them in!" And then off went the buoyant Boyne to his Sussex retreat, where he indulges in shooting, hunting, and other field sports.

"Valentine's" Day.

The date now fixed for the production at the St. James's of the comic opera, "Valentine"—recently named "Prince Valentine"—is the 23rd inst. The name-part will be played by Miss Marjorie Garden, and the leading comedian will be Mr. Walter Passmore. Others in the cast will be Mr. Vernon Davidson, Mr. Leonard Calvert, Mr. Stephen Bond, Miss Mabel Twenlow, and Miss Doris Dean.

Another Bernard Boom.

Bernard Hishin is, at the moment of going to press, negotiating for a certain other West End theatre whereat to produce his new American play acquisition, entitled "The Knife." It will be followed, when occasion calls, by his recent comic opera acquisition, namely, "Laurette," written by Norman Slee, and set to music by John Ansell, musical director of the Alhambra.

"It's Only a Rumour."

But we hear there is likely to be an alteration shortly in the management of one of our principal suburban theatres.

The Martin Harvey Spring Tour.

Mr. Martin Harvey's spring tour commences at the Hastings Gaiety on Monday next. The plays chiefly to be relied upon will be "David Garrick," "Rosemary," and "A Cigarette-maker's Romance."

A Busy Actor-Manager.

Mr. Percy Hutchison is one of the busiest of actor-managers. In addition to playing Monti Brewster in "Brewster's Millions," as well as the Policeman Prince in "A Kiss for Cinderella" at the Queen's Theatre—twelve performances a week—he has two theatres to cater for in the provinces, as well as several provincial companies.

A Pantomime Record.

Last week, at the Theatre Royal, York, all previous records of the theatre were broken by the pantomime of "Aladdin." The spring bookings of Mr. Percy Hutchison's beautiful theatre include Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Matheson Lang, "Betty," "The Better 'Ole," "Daddy Longlegs"—in fact, all the greatest London successes.

Romance Within "Romance."

Miss Doris Keane, whose performances of the heroine of "Romance" at the Lyric are running into a thousand, was married to her leading man, Mr. Basil Sydney, on Thursday. The wedding took place very quietly, only a few intimate friends being present.

Miss Keane was born in Michigan, and first appeared as an amateur as Mrs. Dane in "Mrs. Dane's Defence." So great was her success that she was engaged for the professional stage in a small part in "Whitewashing Julia" in New York. Within a year she was playing the lead in "The Other Girl." She appeared in London in a remarkable performance of the enchantress in "Decorating Clementina" at the Globe, and on Nov. 15, 1915, she began her memorable run at the Lyric with "Romance."

Mr. Basil Sydney will be remembered particularly for his impressive performance in the revival of "Ghosts" at the Kingsway. He succeeded Mr. Owen Nares in "Romance" when the latter actor went to "The Willow Tree" at the Globe.

The day previous Miss Doris Keane was the central figure in an interesting little ceremony at the Lyric, when Mr. William Boosey, Chairman of the Lyric Theatre Co., presented her, on behalf of himself and fellow directors, with a handsome Queen Anne silver tea service and salver, the latter bearing the following inscription: "To Miss Doris Keane, souvenir of the second anniversary of her great performance in "Romance," presented by the directors of the Lyric Theatre, London, 8th October, 1917." Miss Keane made a sympathetic speech of thanks, in which she said that she hoped for a prolongation of her association with the Lyric Theatre while she remained in England.

An Enterprising Manager.

Mr. Sydney Bransgrove is sending out on tour several strong companies, the plays including "The Double Event" (which will visit all the principal towns), "The Prince and the Beggar Maid," "Ye Gods," "Her Love Against the World," and "Two Little Vagabonds," the two last mentioned being this week at Putney Hippodrome and Croydon respectively. Amongst other plays that Mr. Bransgrove has in hand are "Second to None," "Under Two Flags," and "The Lifeguardsman." Mr. Oswald Strong, who joined the Army in the first week of the war, and after being wounded twice was invalided out of the service, is now Mr. Bransgrove's general manager.

A Quicksilver Comedienne.

Little Edna Maude, one of the clever children now appearing in "The Happy Family" at the Strand Theatre, appeared when only 11 years of age at the Royal Court Theatre, and in 1914-15 was the principal danseuse in the Lyceum pantomime. Last year she was honoured by command to entertain the Royal children at St. James's Palace. Edna is generally known on the stage as Little Quicksilver, and, in addition to her two solo dances daily at the Strand, is also appearing in the evening at London music halls.

Practical Presentations.

The presents lavished by the staff and members of the public upon Mr. C. Stanley Gordon on his leaving the Theatre Royal, Jarrow, to take up the management of Mr. Vincent Douglass's tour of "A Christmas Dream," were of a most useful and practical kind. Case of bottled stout, tea, jam, chocolate, &c., tobacco, cigars, cigarettes and case, pipe and pouch, a walking-stick, &c., were amongst the articles.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell's Loss.

Deep sympathy has been extended to Mrs. Patrick Campbell on the loss of her only son, Acting-Lieutenant-Commander Alan U. Campbell, R.N.D., who was killed in action on the 30th ult. He had been in the R.N.D. for over two years, and after the evacuation of Gallipoli received the Croix de Guerre. He had since gained the Military Cross. Educated for the Navy, he gave it up to devote himself to literature, and a play of his, "The Dust of Egypt," was produced at Wyndham's Theatre by Mr. Gerald du Maurier.

An Understudy's Success.

On a recent afternoon Miss Nancy Gibbs was called upon to understudy Miss Lily Elsie in the title-rôle of Pamela at the Palace, and she acquitted herself in all the varieties of the part with distinction. Miss Gibbs, who hails from Pontypridd, is a sister of Miss Dolly Gibbs, who is playing with such success in "Here and There."

Miss Agnes Mayo, who took up Miss Louie Freear's part of Mary, Quite Contrary, at the King's at short notice, has successfully played the rôle since Boxing Night, and will continue to do so till the end of the pantomime.

The Chute Cigar.

In pre-war days, Mr. J. M. Chute, of the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, used to give all the comedians in his show a special cigar every night the curtain was down on the pantomime by 10.45, and that did not often happen, for the comedians preferred gagging to smoking. In "Old King Cole" this year, however, those cigars would be won every night, and the getting of the pantomime through and "All clear" by eleven o'clock is welcomed, not only by the staff at the theatre, but by the public.

Wounded Soldiers' Gratitude.

Mr. Wentworth Croke, the popular manager of the Nottingham Theatre Royal, has been the recipient of a pretty compliment from the wounded soldiers who are inmates of the Nottingham Eye Infirmary. The boys, who have upon many occasions enjoyed his hospitality at the Royal, have presented Mr. Croke with a silver pencil-case, inscribed "To Wentworth Croke, from wounded soldiers," together with a letter of thanks. Needless to say, both gift and letter are highly prized.

Altogether Mr. Croke has every reason to be gratified with the course of events just at present, for "The House that Jack Built" is a remarkable success—no bigger is recorded in the annals of the house for pantomime, so far as the run has gone, and there is every indication that the rush to see this funny, tuneful, and, above all, clean show, will continue.

Wounded Actor-Warriors.

Bristol folk are just now being entertained by some very clever wounded actor-warriors from the officers' hospital at Ashton-court. "That Brute Simmons" and "The Ghost of Jerry Bundler" are the playlets they essay, under the direction of Mr. Frank Morris, who is easily Bristol's leading amateur actor. Theatrical fires are burning fiercely in Bristol military circles, and the R.E.s at the White City have produced a highly creditable pantomime of "Aladdin," all the proceeds going to charity.

An Honoured Name.

Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore who is taking the part of Nina Curtice in "The Prodigy," is a grand-daughter of the magistrates' clerk of Bristol, and Capt. Arthur Holmes-Gore's daughter. The latter, who gave his life in Gallipoli, was formerly in the legal profession in Bristol. Capt. Holmes-Gore was not only well known and popular in London, but equally so in America, where he was associated with Mrs. Langtry in one particularly successful tour.

Opera at Liverpool.

The opera season at the Shakespeare, Liverpool, has now quite definitely entered upon a period of consistent success, large audiences being the invariable rule. Liverpudlians are showing themselves disposed to appreciate at its true worth the public spirit and resource which characterise this Kelly-Phillipps enterprise, and the advance booking indicates that this season of wonderful length will be as successful, if not more successful, than any of its predecessors.

Mr. W. W. Kelly Thanked.

Recently Mr. W. W. Kelly gave the use of the Liverpool Shakespeare and the Birkenhead Theatre Royal for matinées provided by the Optimists, the Liverpool "pals'" concert party, direct from the Front, the result being that a considerable sum was raised for the City Battalions' Comforts Fund and the Prisoners of War Fund.

Brigadier-General F. L. Stanley, brother of Lord Derby, in writing to thank Mr. Kelly for his kindness, said that was not the first time that he had heard of his splendid work and help. He had treated them all nobly, and without such assistance it would have been impossible to carry out their programme. On behalf of the City Battalions he (General Stanley) tendered to Mr. Kelly and his staff his most sincere thanks for what had been done to welcome their troupe of amateurs.

A Generous Action.

Through the kindness of Mr. T. Allan Edwardes and Mr. Walter Bellian, of the Grand Theatre, Derby, special seats were reserved at the matinées on Tuesday and Wednesday last week for the old people from the Workhouse, the youngsters from the Children's Homes, guests from the Blind Institute at Elvaston, the Girls' Rescue Home, and children from the Railway Servants' Orphanage. Wounded soldiers from the Infirmary, &c., have also been entertained, and more have received invitations.

"A Christmas Dream."

The above charming musical play, produced at the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, on Boxing Day, broke every record since the theatre was opened ten years ago. At every performance the theatre was crowded, and huge queues waited in the hope of obtaining admission, but had to be disappointed. It is yet another proof of the versatility of Vincent Douglass, the talented young author of "The Jeffersons." The big company, including the Two Cures, Wilfred Shine, Fred Sinclair, &c., are this week at the Opera House, Buxton, with the Theatre Royal, Leamington Spa, and Theatre Royal, Halifax, to follow.

A Musical V.C.

St. Helens has been honouring its first V.C.—Sergt. Molyneux—who has done heroic deeds in France. After his reception by the town and presentation of War Bond and several other valuable gifts, he was invited to attend a performance of "The Maid of the Mountains," which was running at the theatre last week. The theatre was gaily decorated with flags and bunting for the occasion.

After the second act, the Mayor, amidst enthusiastic applause, presented the V.C., on behalf of the theatre management and staff, with a beautiful silver cigarette case suitably inscribed. Sergt. Molyneux, V.C., in a very short speech, pleaded "stage-fright," and asked that he might be allowed to reply with a concertina solo, with which he greatly delighted the audience.

Mrs. Langtry at Bath.

Mrs. Langtry's visit to the Bath Palace last week in her new playlet, "The Blue Envelope," was an unqualified success, the popular actress being nightly accorded an ovation. On Thursday, at the first house, Mr. W. S. Pearce presented her with a magnificent bouquet of Harrisii lilies tied with "Mrs. Jersey's" well-known racing colours, and to the ribbons was attached a small horse-shoe composed of lilies of the valley.

A Remarkable Pantomime Cast.

My reference last week to Miss Frances Earle, who won the last principal boy prize at Bristol, has called forth a charming letter from the talented artiste. "What a pantomime that was which you have recalled," she writes, "and what a cast—Evie Greene, Fairy Godmother; Bessie Wentworth, Prince; G. P. Huntley, Baron; Pip Powell; Katie Barry; and Frank Dix, Old Father Time. It is sad to think how many of these and others connected with the production—including that very best of managers, Mr. J. Chute—have passed away." THE DRUID.

THEATRICAL WAR SHRINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

SIR,—I have read with interest the proposals contained in the letter from Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn with regard to a war shrine to the memory of our fallen brothers, for I have thought a great deal on the subject for some time past. I think his suggestion an admirable one, and I hope it will be carried out, and embrace every branch of our calling—theatrical, music hall, and staff—as I have felt there should be some memorial more certain and essentially permanent than the suggested hostel scheme for actors' children. But does this present proposal go far enough?

To most of those of us left to carry on, the Strand lives in our memories as the centre of theatrical life; and it seems to me that there should be some permanent monument set up either in the churchyard of St. Mary-le-Strand, the Savoy Chapel, or St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; and what more fitting than a Calvary, that impressive form of wayside shrine so common to the countries our beloved country has been called on so gloriously to help in their hour of trial?

Might I suggest that a meeting of all branches of the profession be called at an early date to consider the matter and hear the views of those to whom the project—no matter in what form decided upon—may seem a sacred act of love and duty to the memory of our comrades, who are not now with us, but who, though resting in foreign lands, are still of us and a memory dear.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK HEATH SAUNDERS.

"Hurstdene," 38, Bathwick-street, Bath.
Jan. 4, 1918.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held at 32, Regent-street on Monday, Jan. 7

Present: Mr. Sydney Valentine (in the chair), Messrs. C. V. France (deputy-chairman), Edgar B. Payne, Julian Royce, John Mortimer, Henry Vibart, F. J. Arlton, A. Harding Steerman, Sydney Paxton (hon. secretary), Misses Lisa Coleman, Judith Kyrle, Laura Leycester, Georgina Hamilton, and M. E. Loman (treasurer).

The hon. secretary read letters from Messrs. Donald Calthrop, H. W. Mote, Charles Seymour, Bille Norwood, Creagh Henry, Eric Williams, Arthur Wontner, and Miss Dorothy Radford, and received instructions as to replies.

The hon. solicitor reported on three cases. The various reports were read and adopted.

Nominations: W. T. Bilwanger, Janet Hodson, Nat Madison, Mlle. Guida, Gladys Gray Renaris, Hilary Burleigh.

Elections: Valma Shepherd, Felix Edwardes, Philip Cunningham, Eric Blore, Eric Howard, Violet Ellicott, Evelyn Roberts.

"A WIFE'S DILEMMA."

Sketch, by Dion Titheradge, produced at the Palace, Bath, on Jan. 7.

Mr. Harker .... Mr. Percival Keitley
Judson ..... Mr. Alfred Williams
The Man ..... Mr. George Bellamy
Mrs. Harker ....Miss Constance Drever

The scene passes in a bedroom in a country mansion, where Mr. and Mrs. Harker have just entered after a fancy ball, in which the husband has attired himself as a monk. Mr. Harker is summoned back to town, and no sooner has he gone than a man in convict's garb breaks into the bedroom. He pretends to the frightened lady that he is one of the guests in fancy costume who has mistaken his room. At that moment there is a commotion consequent upon the police coming after an escaped convict. The intruder then reveals himself to the lady as her former sweetheart. The police are knocking for admission, and for the sake of former times the lady tries to screen the convict. She gives him her husband's discarded disguise and hides him. To the warder she declares that it is her husband in the boudoir, but unfortunately that official had met him en route for the station, so she heroically declares that it is a lover and not her husband. This saves the situation for a while, but still the escaped felon has to make good his retreat, and, failing to coerce the unfortunate lady into going off with him, there is a struggle, the police return, owing to discharge of pistol shots, and the discovered convict falls dead as they break in.

Miss Constance Drever makes a great hit both as a vocalist and an actress in the part of the wife. She sings a pretty new valse by Archibald Joyce, named "Dreamland of Love." She is powerfully supported by Mr. George Bellamy as the convict.

"PETER PAN" AT OXFORD.

J. M. Barrie's delightful and fascinating story of fairyland was successfully produced at the New Theatre, Oxford, on Boxing Day, by J. A. E. Malone's company before crowded and enthusiastic audiences. The light and airy touch essential to the artistic presentment of Peter is admirably conveyed by Miss Eva Embury, whose consistent and clever performance is a great factor in the general success.

During the company's stay here several of its members have very kindly given their services in entertaining our wounded soldiers at the local hospitals.

PROVINCIAL MANAGER'S APPRECIATION.

Mr. J. F. Elliston followed up the remarkable function at the Theatre Royal, Bolton, reported elsewhere on this page, by sending the following letter to Lady Flitcroft:—

"Please convey to your husband, as I am now conveying to you, my heartfelt thanks at your gracing the entertainment yesterday afternoon. Bishop Welldon was certainly overwhelmed with the warmth of his reception, and a number of other people have quoted to me the influence of such gatherings upon the general public. If we could only get the clergy of Bolton to take a greater interest in things that appertain to everyday life, and to mix amongst the people and enjoy their pleasures, if they are right and proper pleasures, an enormous amount of good would be done, not only to the masses, but to the churches themselves."

Sympathy is being generally expressed with the former Gaiety favourite, Miss Irene Richards, the wife of Lieut. Viscount Drumlanrig, who has been wounded in action. The gallant officer is the elder son and heir of the Marquis of Queensberry, and married Miss Richards while home on leave early last month.

DEAN ON THE STAGE.

REMARKABLE SCENE AT BOLTON THEATRE.

Mr. J. F. Elliston has made many records in theatrical enterprise during his forty years' management of the Bolton Royal, and yet another—altogether unique to the Lancashire town—was added to the list when, during the New Year holidays, he introduced to his artistes and a vast audience, an old personal friend in Bishop Welldon, the popular Dean of Manchester. The occasion was the presentation of the pantomime, "Bo-Peep," which has had a splendid run in the old borough, and palpably won the favour of the Dean as well as the people. The Bishop's face was wrinkled with smiles, and the whole "show" seemed to command his full appreciation, as well as of the prominent citizens who attended to do the Dean and Mr. Elliston honour. These included, amongst others, the Rev. Canon Chapman, Vicar of Bolton and Rural Dean; Rev. T. Taylor-Evans, Mr. Robert Tootill, M.P., Colonel George Hesketh, and Sir Thomas and Lady Flitcroft.

At the interval Mr. J. F. Elliston was accompanied on the stage by the Dean, the artistes grouped in rear, and a sea of faces in front. Mr. Elliston acknowledged in fitting terms the kindness of Bishop Welldon in giving of his valuable time to visit Bolton. He was a man of great heart, well known to large numbers in the theatrical profession. He recognised the artistes as his friends, he went amongst them as their friend, and invited them to his church. Needless to say, such action had gained for him many friends in the theatrical world; they followed his excellent advice, and they followed him to church. In his opinion the Dean went about his work in the right way, and, if he might say so, afforded an example to clergy and ministers worthy of all emulation. It was, unfortunately, the fact that many actors and actresses stayed away from places of worship because they were not welcome, and Bishop Welldon's was a great stroke in the breaking down of a barrier which ought not to exist. Long might he live to succeed in the mission he had undertaken, and which promised great results. (Applause.)

The Dean, received with cheers, said he was glad to be there amongst them, and he trusted that large audience would not think he was in the wrong place on that Bolton stage. Quite recently he had been making a tour of the theatres in Manchester and Salford—that was the seventeenth of the round of visits—and he claimed that he knew more about theatres than anyone in Manchester. But he had been getting into trouble about it. He had in his pocket a very abusive postcard, evidently written because he had been photographed with Miss Dorothy Ward, a well-known and popular artiste. He was not going to read the postcard he had received, but he would say that "If Miss Dorothy Ward was not ashamed to stand beside him, he was certainly not ashamed to stand by her." (Applause.) The Bishop proceeded to say he wanted the people of Bolton to back up Mr. Elliston in producing healthy plays. He had come amongst his friends on the stage because he wanted to be a friend of theirs, and he wanted them to be friends of his. He dared say there were black sheep in the theatrical profession, as there were in his own, but if he thought them ever so bad—which he did not—he would say that was all the more reason for his going amongst them. He did know that the stage was one of the most generous of the professions, always ready to give service in the cause of philanthropy and for the relief of wounded soldiers, and 104 of their numbers had laid down their lives in the war. He wished his friends good luck and a happy New Year, and if they were ever in Manchester, and he could do anything to help them, he wanted to do it.

Mr. R. Tootill, M.P., thanked the Dean for his manly and interesting address. It was on the democratic lines now taking hold more and more amongst the people. Canon Chapman seconded, and spoke of the Dean's broad-mindedness and great heart which endeared him to the people.

Mr. Elliston supported in a word. That occasion, he said, was unique, and would go down in the records of the theatre as such. He put the resolution, and asked that it should be carried in true Lancashire fashion.

And so it was, three lusty cheers reverberating through the building.

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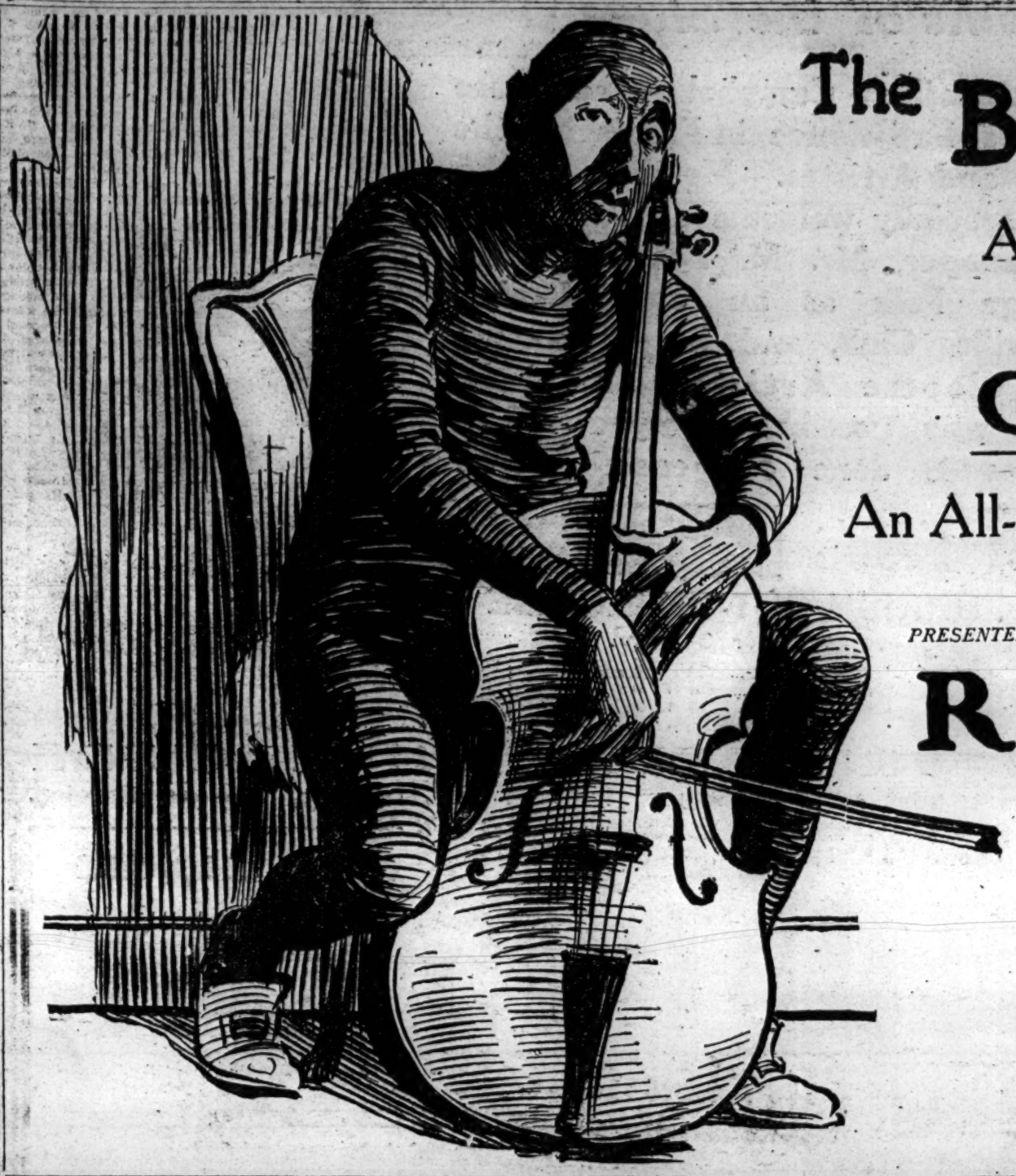

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"ERA" FINANCIAL SECTION.

BY OUR FINANCIAL EXPERT.

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

The principal feature of last week's dealings in amusement securities was the persistent buying of Palace Theatre ordinary shares, which rose no less than 3s. 6d. Business ranged from 11s. 10½d. to 14s. 6d., at which price the shares changed hands on Friday last. They closed slightly under this figure with buying orders still unfilled.

London Theatres of Varieties 7 per cent. pref. keep active and firm, but there has been some profit-taking by the shrewd buyers who bought some months ago on the figures displayed in the last balance-sheet, but all shares on offer have been readily absorbed by "bargain-hunters." The ordinary shares of this company are now beginning to be inquired for, but there are few sellers about at the nominal quotation of 5s. 6d.-6s. 6d.

Victoria Palace shares are slightly easier at 22s. ex div. Glasgow Pavilion £1 ordinary have risen to 2 7/8 on the very satisfactory dividend announcement, mention of which is made below. London Palace are lower at 25s., and Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties have been dealt in once or twice round about 7s.

Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd.

The announcement recently made by the directors of the above concern constitutes a new record in the way of dividend disbursements for this company; a dividend of 40 per cent. for the year ending October 31, 1917 has now been declared. This company paid 20 per cent in 1914, 25 per cent. in 1915, 32½ per cent. in 1916, and 40 per cent. for 1917, which shows fine progress, and reflects the highest credit on the management and all concerned. Shareholders are to be congratulated on the results obtained.

In my notes last week I mentioned that shareholders of amusement companies would have no cause to complain when the balance-sheets of the various concerns for the past year were published. The distribution of the Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd., goes to prove what has repeatedly been said in these columns with regard to the general outlook of amusement shares.

New Century Pictures, Ltd.

The directors' sixth annual report of the above company, together with the audited accounts for the year ending December 1, 1917, is now to hand. A substantial improvement is shown in the earnings for the past year, the net profits amounting to £11,007 1s. as compared with £7,684 8s. 9d. for the previous year. Whilst the directors have pursued a very conservative policy in only declaring a dividend of 10 per cent., and allocating the same amount as last year to the reserve, namely £2,000 (making £6,000 to date), the balance carried forward shows a substantial improvement, and is increased to £4,900. As our esteemed contemporary, the "Financial Times" remarks, "evidently the picture business has not been injured by the prolongation of the war."

V. M.

January 8.

CURRENT MARKET QUOTATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL THEATRE MUSIC HALL AND CINEMA COMPANIES' SHARES.

The following Quotations, made up to Tuesday morning in each week are supplied to us by Messrs. Keith, MacAllister and Co., Ltd., 53a, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.

Alhambra (London) £1 Ord. ..	1—1¼	London £1 7% Cum. Pref. ..	16/-—17/-
" 4th Deb. (1912)	80—85	Manchester Hippo. £5 Ord. ..	5½—5¾
Assoc. Prov. Pic. Houses £1 Ord	5/-—6/-	" 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	65—75
" £1 6% Non-Cum. Pref.	⅛—¼	Manchester Pal. of Var. £1 Ord.	24/-—25/-
B.B. Pictures £1 10% Cum. Pref.	8/-—9/-	" 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	90—95
Biograph Ths. 10s. "B" Ord. ..	1/6—2/-	Manchester Th. Royal £10 Ord...	7¾—8¼
Birmingham Th. Royal 10/- Ord..	10/-—11/-	Moss' Empires £5 Ord.	4—4¼
" 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	65—70	" " £5 5% Cum. Pref.	2⅛—2⅜x
Coliseum £1 Ord.	3—3¼	Metropolitan Th of Var. £1 Ord.	6/6—7/6
" £1 6% Non Cum. Pref..	¼—1	National Elec. Th. 10s. Ord. ..	6/6—7/6
" 5½% 1st Mort. Debs. ..	96—98x	New Century Pictures £1 Ord...	9/-—11/-
Croydon Hip. 6% 1st Mort. Debs.	48—50	Oxford £5 Ord...	3¼—3⅝
Empire £1 Ord. (10s. pd.)	9/6—10/6	Palace Theatre 10s. Ord. (9s. pd.)	13/6—14/6
" £1 Ord. (15s. pd.)	⅛—¾	Piccadilly Clr. Cin. Th. £1 Ord.	1⅛—⅞
Gaiety Theatre £1 Ord.	⅛—¾	Picture Th. Finl. Trust £10 7½%	
Glasgow Alhambra £1 Ord. ..	2⅜—2⅝	Partic. Deb. Bond..	9¾—10¼
" Pavilion £1 Ordy. ..	2¾—3	Provl. Cin. Th. £1 Ord.	27/3—28/3
Hackney & Shep. Bush £5 Ord...	2¾—3¼	" " £1.7½% "A" Pref.	1—1⅛
" £5 6% Cum. Pref...	2¼—⅛x	" " £1.7½% "B" Pref.	17/6—18/6
" 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	60—70	Robert Arthur Th. Co., 5% 1st	
Howard & Wyndham £5 Ord. ..	4⅝—4¾	Mort. Debs.	78—82
" £5 5% Cum. Pref.	3¼—3½	Sheffield & Dis. Cin. Th. 10s. Ord.	1—1⅛
Leicester Pal. Th. £5 Ord. ..	4⅝—4¾	Th. Royal (Drury Lane) £1 Ord.	
London Pav. £5 Ord...	1⅜—1⅝	(15s. pd.)	9/-—10/-
" " £5 6% Cum. Pref. ..	2⅛—3	United Theatres £5 Ord.	2—2¼
" Th. of Var. £1 Ord. ..	5/6—6 6	" " £5 5% Cum. Pref.	2¼—3
		Victoria Palace 10s. Ord... ..	21/6—22/6x

JANUARY 8, 1918.

(Subject to market fluctuations).

x = ex dividend.

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"A BROKEN DOLL."

Play, in Six Scenes, Written by Gladys Hastings Walton, and Produced at the Theatre Royal, Barnsley, on Monday, Dec. 31.

Dr. Harvey Clinton ..	Henry C. Ward
Harry Fielding	Arthur Hinton
Philip Duncan	Harry T. Wood
Jack Stanton	Leslie Steward
Nicodemus Boffin	John Hignett
Raikes	Alfred Roy
Jean Carmichael	Laura Wright
Ito-Yo-San	Peggy Courtney
Joan Clinton ..... / Mavis Clinton	Ethel Monton

Described as "A woman's play on the most vital topic of the day," "A Broken Doll" treats an urgent social problem in a bold yet delicate way. In other respects the play has the merit of an intensely human story.

The "Broken Doll" is Joan Clinton, daughter of Dr. Harvey Clinton, a country practitioner, who has taken into partnership a clever young doctor, Harry Fielding, who in later years becomes Sir Henry Fielding, and famous as a specialist. Philip Duncan comes to the surgery for treatment for injuries received in a motor accident. Attracted by the beauty and innocence of Joan Clinton, he induces her to go away and to go through a Scottish form of marriage with him. Too late she discovers she has been deceived, and that Duncan was previously a married man. Joan lives long enough to become a mother, and with her parting breath she makes Harry Fielding promise he will seek no vengeance on the man who so foully wronged her.

Mavis Clinton, the baby she leaves, becomes her mother's lover's ward, and seventeen years later Mavis returns from school to Sir Henry Fielding's luxurious home, where, with love fast ripening between guardian and ward, happiness is again disturbed by the coming of Lord Chetwyne, who, suffering from a dread disease, learns that Sir Henry alone has the power by virtue of his expert skill to save him from a terrible end. While Lord Chetwyne is waiting in the nursing home to undergo the operation his evil passions are aroused by the beauty and purity of Mavis, who scorns his overtures, and, in a series of thrilling scenes, the revelations come that Lord Chetwyne is the man who, as Philip Duncan, years before, ruined Joan Clinton. He tells Mavis that her guardian did her mother that great wrong, and that Sir Henry is her father. Broken-hearted, Mavis later learns the true facts by overhearing Sir Henry, who discovers Lord Chetwyne's identity, accuse the rake of his crime against womanhood, and refuses to perform the operation that will save his life. Here, in a passionate scene, Mavis and Sir Henry come to the glad knowledge that their love for each other is returned, while Sir Henry, reminded of his promise to the dead, that he would seek no vengeance, resolves to do his duty as a doctor to the wretched man answerable for so much misery and who, just as the decision is made, falls lifeless from failure of the heart, brought on by excitement.

Miss Ethel Monton, in the dual rôle of Joan and Mavis Clinton, played with marked natural effect, her reading of the "Broken Doll" revealing her dramatic powers of portrayal, while her subsequent treatment of the rôle of a flapper and her realisation of womanhood and love had many effective features, reflecting her talent and versatility. Mr. Arthur Hinton as Harry and Sir Henry Fielding was always vivid and sympathetic. The other rôles were capably sustained by Mr. Harry T. Wood as Duncan and Lord Chetwyne, Mr. Henry O'Ward as Dr. Harvey Clinton, Miss Laura Wright as Sir Henry's housekeeper, Mr. Leslie Steward as Sir Henry's pupil, Mr. John Hignett as the old gardener, Miss Peggy Courtney as Ito-Yo-San, and Mr. Alfred Roy as Lord Chetwyne's servant.

CONTROL OF BIRMINGHAM ENTERTAINMENTS.

The new control applied to places of amusement in Birmingham was dealt with in a report presented to the Justices on Thursday by the Public Entertainments Committee. This is a committee appointed to exercise the functions formerly shared by the Licensing Committee and the General Purposes Committee. The newly constituted body now consists of twelve members, and two Justices are detailed to supervise places of amusement in each police division. One of the most striking developments in connection with the new order of things is the embodying of a joint committee, consisting of four Justices and three members of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association. Among matters which this composite body has discussed with practical results, the report enumerated children's matinées, ventilation, and lighting, minimum prices, and censorship of films. The joint committee was declared to have been a most valuable expedient, and the committee expressed appreciation of the candid and practical manner in which the members of the Association had assisted in the deliberations.

No serious complaints had been received from the public with regard to the various places of entertainment. At certain theatres and music halls there had been complaints as to the conduct of actors in introducing undesirable action and "gags," and there had been two convictions for this offence during the year. Other reported objectionable "patter" had been stopped on the suggestion of the police. "The licensees," it was added, "are not entirely to blame for this conduct, as in many instances they have tried to ascertain by previous rehearsals that no objectionable conduct or words would be introduced."

The places licensed for public entertainments had increased from 223 in 1911 to 280 in 1916. Cinema exhibitions had increased during the same period from 44 to 74.

Mr. S. B. Short, chairman of the committee, informed his colleagues at Thursday's meeting that the adequate lighting of cinemas during the exhibition of the pictures was receiving the continued attention of the committee. The co-operation of licensees was being sought with a view to ensuring visibility of the audience during the progress of the exhibition, as they felt public convenience and order would be promoted thereby. A motion for the adoption of the report was agreed to.

At the Husion Theatre, on Jan. 3, there was produced a Russian spectacular sketch, in three scenes, by Percival H. T. Sykes, entitled "The Cry of the Children."

Mr. Arthur J. Coke, secretary of Our Dumb Friends' League, 58, Victoria-street, S.W., writes:—"May I venture to ask once again for the generous help of dog lovers for our fund for helping poor dog owners to pay the dog tax which falls due to-day (Jan. 1)? I have already had many pathetic applications—many from widows of men who have fallen in the war. The cost of a licence is taken out by the society on behalf of the applicant. Donations should be marked 'Dog Licence,' and will be gratefully acknowledged."

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COMING FILM TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Fox Films (Fox), Super Cinema, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

The Grill Mystery—The Furnished Room (Vitagraph), West End Cinema, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 9.

The Man Without a Country (Phillips), Marble Arch Pavilion, 11.15 a.m., Jan. 11.

The Millionaire Vagrant, Caught in a Harem, When Hearts Collide (Triangle), Shaftesbury Pavilion, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

All for a Husband, Super Cinema, 11 a.m., Jan. 16.

BELFAST.

The Corner Grocer (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.15 a.m., Jan. 16.

BIRMINGHAM.

Hashimuro Togo (Walker), Scala, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

North of 53, Scala Theatre, 11 a.m., Jan. 15.

Soldiers of Chance, An Alabaster Box, Strictly Business (O. Henry) (Jury's), Own Theatre, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

Wolf Lowry, A Hindu Hoodoo, Petticoat Perils (Triangle), 144-5, Suffolk-street, 11 a.m., 3 p.m., Jan. 11.

Wolf Lowry, A Hindu Hoodoo, Petticoat Perils (Tringle), 144-5, Suffolk-street, 3.30 p.m., 6.30 p.m., Jan. 13.

The Corner Grocer (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Jan. 15.

BRISTOL.

Miss Nobody (Pathé), Livermore's Palace, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

Man and Beast, A Blissful Calamity (Granger), Triangle Hall, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Queen's Hall, Jan. 13.

CARDIFF.

Features (F.B.O.), 27, Charles-street, every Tuesday.

Features (Paragon Films), Own Theatre, every day.

Wolf Lowry, A Hindu Hoodoo, Petticoat Perils (Triangle), Principality-buildings, Priory-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

Double Crossed (Walker), 16, Priory-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

Open Places—Ham and Bud (F.B.O.), Own Theatre, 2.45 p.m., Jan. 12.

Miss U.S.A., The Pavilion, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 15.

The Guardian (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.15 p.m., Jan. 15; 11.30 a.m., Jan. 18.

DUBLIN.

The Corner Grocer (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 15.

GLASGOW.

The Deemster (Jury's), Picture House, Jan. 9.

Jimmie Dale (F.B.O.), Own Theatre, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 9.

Charity Castle (Scot. Ex. Control), Mutual Chambers, 68, Great Clyde-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

The Man Trap (Baker), New Savoy, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

Back of the Man, His Precious Life, Innocent Sinners (Triangle), 182, Trongate, 3 p.m., Jan. 11.

A Branded Soul, Grand Central Picture House, 11 a.m., Jan. 14.

The Corner Grocer (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30 p.m., Jan. 15; 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., Jan. 16.

Soldiers of Chance, An Alabaster Box, Strictly Business (O. Henry) (Jury's), Own Theatre, 11 a.m., Jan. 15.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), King's Cinema, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 15 and 16.

LEEDS.

North of 53 (Fox), Grand Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., Jan. 16.

Cheerful Givers, Hula Hula Land, Heart Strategy (Triangle), Bond-place-chambers, Infirmary-street, Jan. 8 and 11.

Love's Innocence (Thanhouser), 29, Guildford-street, 3 p.m., Jan. 11.

The Corner Grocer (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., Jan. 15.

A Branded Soul, Grand Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., Jan. 17.

Soldiers of Chance, An Alabaster Box, Strictly Business (O. Henry) (Jury's), New Century, Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., Jan. 18.

The Man Trap (Phillips), City Picture House, Jan. 22.

LIVERPOOL.

A Strange Transgressor, The Late Lamented, Won by a Foot (Triangle), The Scala, Lime-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 34, Paradise-street, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Jan. 8 and 9.

The Fatal Ring (Serial), (Pathé), 34, Paradise-street, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Jan. 9.

The Guardian, and The Little Duchess (Gaumont), Scala Super Cinema, Lime-st., 11 a.m., Jan. 10.

The Little American—The Adventurer (Walker), Scala, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

A Branded Soul and This is the Life, Scala Super Cinema, 10.45 a.m., Jan. 15.

MANCHESTER.

The Guardian, and The Little Duchess (Gaumont), Grosvenor Picture House, All Saints, 10.45 a.m., Jan. 9.

Skinner's Baby (F.B.O.), Cinema Exchange, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

Love's Innocence (Thanhouser), 12, Cannon-street, 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m., Jan. 9.

The Guardian—The Little Duchess (Gaumont), Grosvenor, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

A Strange Transgressor, The Late Lamented, Won by a Foot (Triangle), Triangle House, St. Mary's-street, 11 a.m., 2.30 p.m., Jan. 8, 10, 11.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Grosvenor Picture Palace, All Saints, 11 a.m., Jan. 10.

Pathé Theatre, 15, Deansgate, 3 p.m., Jan. 10.

North of 53 (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 28, Deansgate-arcade, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Jan. 10, 11.

A Branded Soul, Fox Private Theatre, 28, Deansgate-arcade, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Jan. 10 and 11.

The Corner Grocer (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 3 p.m., Jan. 15.

All for a Husband, Fox Private Theatre, 28, Deansgate-arcade, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Jan. 17 and 18.

The Man Trap (Phillips), Market-st. Picture House, Jan. 18.

NEWCASTLE.

Miss U.S.A. (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 30, Westgate-road, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

The Little American—The Adventurer (Walker), Cross House, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

The Corner Grocer (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Jan. 15.

North of 53 Fox Private Theatre, 20, Westgate-road, 11 a.m., Jan. 16.

Soldiers of Chance, An Alabaster Box, Strictly Business (O. Henry) (Jury's), Own Theatre, 11 a.m., Jan. 16.

Mystery of the Marsh (Phillips), Queen's Hall, Jan. 15.

NOTTINGHAM.

Hashimuro Togo (Walker), Scala, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

Jimmie Dale (F.B.O.), Picture House, 10.45 a.m., Jan. 11.

The Life of Lord Kitchener (L.I.F.T.), Scala, 11 a.m., Jan. 29.

SHEFFIELD.

Cheerful Givers, Hula Hula Land, Heart Strategy (Triangle), Clayton's Theatre, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

The Blind Boy (Ruffells), Union-street P.P., 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

North of 53 (Fox), Clayton's Bioscope, 11 a.m., Jan. 11.

A Branded Soul, Clayton's Bioscope, 11 a.m., Jan. 18.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.

The Life of Lord Kitchener (L.I.F.T.), Majestic, 11 a.m., Jan. 22.

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.
Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience .....B | Suit any audience .....D

OPEN MARKET.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Feb. 18 ..	Plans and Pyjamas	Vitagraph	Comedy	917	6½	B
Feb. 21 ..	Bobby Home Defenders ..	Vitagraph	Comedy	897	6¾	D
Feb. 25 ..	Bill's Bad Bargain	A.B.	Comedy	1000	6½	B
Feb. 25 ..	Ham Goes Barmey	Ham	Comedy	1050	7	B
Feb. 25 ..	Kicked in the Kitchen ..	Victor	Comedy	966	6¾	B
Feb. 25 ..	Bred in the Purple	Laemmle	Drama	958	6¾	B
Feb. 25 ..	The Wart on the Wire ..	Joker	Comedy	1011	6¾	B
Feb. 28 ..	The Padre's Candlestick ..	Laemmle	Drama	929	6½	B
Feb. 28 ..	Hot Applications	Nestor	Comedy	980	6¾	B
Feb. 28 ..	The Trans-Atlantic Screen Magazine	Transatlantic	Interest	560	6¾	B
Feb. 28 ..	A Walloping Time	Victor	Comedy	963	6¾	B
Feb. 28 ..	The Italian Riviera	Kineto	Interest	455	7	D
Feb. 28 ..	The Girl and the Convicts ..	Helen Series	Railroad-Drama	900	6¾	B
Feb. 28 ..	Poor Pa Pays	Funographs	Comedy	650	6¾	B
— ..	War Official Topical Budget, Nos. 33321 and 33312	—	—	—	—	—

EXCLUSIVES.

Feb. 11 ..	Sticky Affair	Vim	Comedy	1000	7½	B
March 4 ..	The Hindu Hoodoo	Keystone-Kee Bee	—	2000	8	B
March 28..	Lass of the Lumberlands ..	Bolton's	Serial	6 Episodes	8¾	B
April 11 ..	Petticoat Peril	W'st'rnlmp'rt Billikin	Comedy	1000	7¾	B
April 29 ..	Miss U.S.A.	Fox	Drama	5000	8½	B
May 6 ..	North of Fifty-Three ..	Fox	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	B
May 6 ..	Wolf Lowry	Triangle	Drama	5000	9	D
May 6 ..	Who Was the Other Man? ..	Universal Butterfly	Drama	5000	8¾	B
May 16 ..	Venturers	Vitagraph	Comedy	2000	8¾	B
May 20 ..	Whoso Findeth a Wife ..	Ideal-American	Drama	5000	8¾	D
May 27 ..	The Bottom of the Well ..	Vitagraph	Drama	5000	8¾	D
June 10 ..	The Golden Idiot	Essanay's Gold Seal	Comedy-Drama	5000	9	A
June — ..	Bandits, Beware	Essanay	Comedy	1000	8	B
June — ..	Innocence of Love	Thanhouser	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¼	B
June — ..	Sands of Sacrifice	Bolton's	Drama	5000	8¾	D
Not known	The Lion's Lair	101 Bison	Drama	2000	9	B
Not known	The Fatal Ring	Pathé	Serial-Melodrama	2000 ft.ea.	9	C.B.
Not known	The Adventurer	Walker-Chpln	Comedy	2000	9	D
Not known	The Little American ..	Walker	Drama	5000	10	D

MELODYLAND.

B. Feldman and Co.

From the Grand Theatre, Hull, Alf. J. Lawrence (of "Apron and Bonnet" fame) writes:—"Panto. big success here; Violet Carmen making history with 'Let the Great Big World Keep Turning,' 'Hoola Boola Lou' and 'Down Texas Way' also going great."

Haidee de Rance is featuring "I Never Knew I Loved You Till You Said Good-bye" in pantomime at Liverpool, and, needless to say, makes this fine song go all the way.

Talbot O'Farrell, now happily recovered from his indisposition, continues to attract much appreciative attention in two excellent numbers, "She's the Best Little Mother that God ever Made" and "All the World will be Jealous of Me."

The Theatre Royal, Nottingham, has many Feldman numbers in its successful pantomime. Here is the list of winners: "Great Big World," "Girls in the Uniform," and "For You Are Just the Only One for Me," sung by Miss Florence Helm; "Down Texas Way" and "I Don't Want to Go Back," sung by J. H. Wakefield; "Black-eyed Susans" and "Yaddie Kaddie Koo," by the Troupe of Dancers; and "Do You Like Me," sung as a duet.

Star Music Co.

In the pantomime "Dick Whittington," at the Hippodrome, Shearness, Jenny Reeve makes a charming Dick. Miss Reeve is making a great hit with "Oh, It's a Lovely War," and had to sing three encore choruses before the audience was satisfied. Two other big winners which Miss Reeve is featuring are "Down Texas Way" and "There's a Girl for Every Soldier," which are heartily taken up by the audience.

There is an "all Star" panto., "Robinson Crusoe," at the Grand Theatre, Nottingham. Lily Fragson sings "Down Texas Way," Hettie Zillwood "Oh, It's a Lovely War," Lydia Andre "Swing Me in the Moonlight," Helena Barton "Cheerio, Sailor Boy," Daisy Fragson "There's a Girl for Every Soldier," Algy Spading "Father Keeps the Home Fire Burning" and "That's the Stuff to Give 'Em." Each of the above numbers is worked as a solo, and gains much favour.

VARIETY NOTES.

Isa Wise,
the popular chorus singer, who has made such a favourable impression with "You Were Very Good to Me," which she was the first to introduce, opens on the Stoll tour next month. This week she is at Poplar.

Dorothy Levy in Panto.

This popular artiste, who plays the part of the Fairy Queen in Chas. Gulliver's production of "Cinderella" at Woolwich this week, is a singer with a very pleasing voice. Her number, "Love, Come From Your Hiding-place," and the waltz song, which are delightfully rendered, are loudly acclaimed. At the conclusion of pantomime Dorothy goes into "All Clear" revue.

Edgar Curtis,
whose marionette show has been so successful in town recently, has re-dressed the act and introduced fresh characters. Edgar is at Preston this week, and goes to Bury next.

Johnson Clark.

After a long provincial tour the popular sportsman ventriloquist opened in town this week at the Holborn Empire, where his reception proved of the heartiest. A new feature in his act is the appearance of his wife.

Nixon Grey.

This popular comedian, who has been doing remarkably well in the provinces on the Moss Tour, &c., is now in town for two months on the L.T.V. halls. This week Nixon is appearing at the Holborn and Shoreditch, where he is featuring his successful number, "Roses and Radishes, Pansies and Peas."

Tom Gott,
the popular Yorkshire comedian, who is playing dame at the Royal, Nottingham, tells us that, in spite of record business, the pantomime must finish on Feb. 2 owing to prior bookings. Tom is thus available for the following three weeks in town or the provinces, the former preferred.

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The curative power of Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is never more strikingly shown than in those hard, deep-seated coughs and wheezings from which so many old folks suffer. Veno's soothes at once, loosens the phlegm and relieves the breathing; and as it contains no narcotics it may be taken freely during attack. Prove its efficacy to-day for yourself. Your nearest Chemist will supply.

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DOWN TEXAS WAY.

DO YOU LIKE ME?

YOU OUGHTN'T TO DO IT.

MY BABY SOLDIER BOY.

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MY OWN IONA.

THEY'RE WEARING 'EM HIGHER IN HAWAII.

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"THE WISE JESTER."—*Vide Manchester Guardian, October 9, 1917.*

"GAY PAREE

Or, A ROYAL DISCOURSE."

(With apologies to W. W. Kelly, Esq.)

(Written and Composed by FRED SHAW).

MARK SHERIDAN as Napoleon

Thanks to W. W. Kelly, Esq., for permission to travesty Napoleon's speech from the "Royal Divorce."

Have purchased an Original Napoleon Semi-stage Coach for Parade, formerly the property of the late Lord George Sanger.

BOOKINGS.

T.R., DUBLIN; HIPPODROME, BELFAST; TIVOLI, NEW BRIGHTON; GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL; COURT THEATRE, WARRINGTON; THEATRE ROYAL, ST. HELENS; THEATRE ROYAL, BURY; THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON; HIPPODROME, DERBY; HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER; ARDWICK, MANCHESTER, etc., etc., etc.

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The Confidential Comedian.

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TOP OF BILL, EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

The "GLASGOW EVENING NEWS" says: "For rich humour Robb Wilton's burlesque of a detective is one of the best things seen in Glasgow for some time. His list of questions to the woman who poisoned her husband and desires to give herself up to justice are calculated to send the ordinary police official into kinks of laughter. Wilton is decidedly a droll comedian."

The "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN" says: "If there is a comedian with a richer sense of humour than Robb Wilton, we do not recollect his name."

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Filmland

NEWS AND REVIEWS OF THE PICTURE WORLD

KINEMA ON TOUR IN FRANCE.

By HETTY LANGFORD REED.

The only kinema of its kind touring in that mysterious place called "somewhere" in France is the one recently attached to the Royal Flying Corps. It has proved a most attractive development of the highly popular kinema camp theatres dotted over the area round the base. Of the 200 stationary kinemas officially run for the entertainment of the troops, some very interesting particulars have already appeared. But probably some of the readers of "The Era" would like to hear something of the work of the new travelling kinema, which provides entertainment for so many lads scattered in out-of-the-way posts, such as aerodromes and prisoner-of-war camps, who have no opportunity of visiting the "regular" houses.

It was the chaplain of the R.F.C., the Rev. R. W. Dugdale, M.C., who first mooted the idea of having a travelling kinema for these lonely outpost troops, and I may add "right here" that the Rev. R. W. Dugdale is one of the most popular chaplains at the front, and as brave as the best of them. He was decorated by the King at Buckingham Palace about six months ago for saving wounded when under fire in the trenches, and he is a great believer in the kinema as a healthy and excellent form of relaxation for "the boys." The question then was where to give this travelling "show?" My husband, Langford Reed, who was selected by the chaplain to manage the kinema for him, gave the first performance in an empty aerodrome "hangar." This, however, was found to be too large and windy. So he tried showing in two Nizzen huts joined oblong. The roof being low, at first the question of projection proved a difficulty, but "Nizzen huts" being open to persuasion this was soon overcome.

The Latest Style in Kinema Theatres.

My husband thus humorously describes a Nizzen hut:—"Take about twenty to forty longitudinal feet of tube railway, together with a section of platform of the same length, covered with match-boarding, and over that fit an accordian-pleated overcoat of tin, stand the whole evenly on your segment of platform, fasten down firmly all round with strong nails—and there you have a Nizzen hut." Which surely makes the most unique picture theatre in the world!

The corps does not travel an operator. It is fortunate in having professional operators stationed at its various wings. At one, the former manager of an Ipswich kinema obliges; at another an operator hailing from Australia; and at a third a smart youth who was formerly at Essanay, and who, of course, recognised my husband when he visited a previous billet with despatches.

The show is given in two houses a night, and a two nights' stay is made at each destination. A huge van carries the lantern and stand, boxes of films, over a hundred feet of wire for connecting up the electric current, repairing outfit, box full of carbons, a tub and coils to make a "water resister" for the current, a register, eight spools, four huge war clamps for stand, screen, posters, cash-box and ladder, and finally the manager's own bedding, which consists of four blankets!

About 13,000 to 14,000 feet of film are shown nightly, all of which has to be rewound on to another spool next morning to be ready for showing again.

With that, and a possible repair or two, procuring the programme, arranging for the show, and in the evening officiating as manager, L.R. is well employed.

The average audience is about 130 strong, and the performance lasts about two hours and a half.

A sheet was the first screen. And since the army does not indulge itself in the luxury of sheets, my husband borrowed one from the nearest cottage for the purpose of making an impromptu screen, and invited the good woman and her family to see the show by way of return for the loan. While he was adapting this "screen" a goat from a neighbouring field strolled across to see what was happening, and became so attracted by "the pictures" that he had swallowed about a foot of a Vitagraph drama, and was enthusiastically uncoiling the rest when he was luckily caught "in the act" and made to disgorge! The impromptu screen has now been replaced by a better one. It consists of ten feet square of white oil-cloth, and shown from the rough side it makes an excellent screen.

There is always someone among the audience who can accompany the pictures, and a pianoforte is soon brought in from the sergeant's mess, or the men's dining hall, and a gramophone or two adds "weight" when the work of "the villain" is being perpetrated. The films are mostly American, the comedies principally Keystone's. "The Submarine Pirates," with Syd Chaplin as "star," was on the programme, and went with a roar from start to finish. The officers are greatly interested in the subject of picture producing, and chat freely on the subject. As to the men, they are as pleased as children, and applaud every picture. They can't do enough to help.

Faking the Posters.

The posters cause the greatest possible interest, and no matter what their subject or age, they all tend to dress the show.

From his cheerful pen my husband gives the audience the following description of the charges:—

Come, hurry up, and don't be late,
We start our picture show at eight.
We entertain, two nights, no more,
This squadron, of the Flying Corps.
We've films so real you almost live 'em,
In short, we've just the "stuff to give 'em."

Dramas and comedies unteem,
As good as any on the screen.
Our prices, vary, too, with rank,
For officers we charge a franc,
N.C.O.'s half that figure reach,
While plain A.M.'s are 2d. each.
For this small pelf, as quid pro quo,
You'll get a d—— good picture show!

He has also been commissioned to write some topical verses for an entertainment which is being organised by one of the wings.

On the night of the initial performance of the new kinema, the officer commanding addressed his men, bidding them give three cheers for the excellent entertainment instituted by their chaplain, and for the projector and outfit which had been so generously given them by Mr. Will Day, of "Kinutilities." Very hearty and loud was the response. And very hearty and loud will it echo in their hearts through all the dreary months of winter, when in their brief hours of respite from danger encountered and overcome, they turn in to see "the show," and from the Colonel-in-Chief down to "Biddy," their mascot, its quide-in every time.

"LASS OF THE CUMBERLANDS."

THE STORY OF A BOLD BID FOR OMNIPOTENCY BY AN UNSCRUPULOUS AND GRASPING LUMBER PIRATE.

Production ..... Bolton's Mutual
Star ..... Helen Holmes
Type ..... Sensational Serial
Length ..... Fifteen Episodes

On New Year's afternoon a private view of this film serial, produced by J. P. McGowan, who himself enacts a part, for the Signal Film Corporation, was given at 89, Wardour-street, and made a decided hit. The scenario, by Willis Woods, is replete with picturesque interest; and the photography, by S. U. Sues, is remarkably clear, effective, and artistic. Dollar Holmes, so called on account of his absorbing passion for plunder, being disgusted because his wife presents him with a daughter and not a son and heir, deserts her. Believing them to have been killed by a dynamite explosion, he marries the daughter of a millionaire, and by this union a son is born. Thereafter a series of startling adventures, fights, and hair-breadth escapes form the landmarks on the ultra-egoist's journey by the winding road of treason, stratagem, and spoils to his ultimate violent end. The daughter by his first marriage is none other than Helen of the title-rôle, perfectly played with fearless and convincing liveliness by Helen Holmes; whilst Stephen, his son by the second marriage, is rescued by and falls in love with her, though in the end she marries her staunch ally and protector, Tom Dawson. As a thrilling, picturesque, and engrossing story of lumberland this film will no doubt secure many offers.

[See our Film Markings.]

"WOLF LOWRY"

DRAMATIC STORY OF THE OLD WILD WEST.

Production ..... Triangle
Star ..... W. S. Hart
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts
Release ..... March 6

The central figure of "Wolf Lowry," connected with the newspaper world, turns out to be a fraud of the first order, it being established later that he was born nearer Hibernia than the Himalayas. But many amusing scenes and much rough-and-tumble fun ensue before his exposure is complete—an impromptu bath in the lake in company with the investigator establishing the fact that he is neither black nor be-whiskered — both coming off in the wash. Finally his discomfiture is absolute when his deserted and dreary-looking spouse comes to claim him, he gladly surrendering to the constable in preference to going home with his loving wife. The film caused much merriment.

[See our Film Markings.]

"MISS U.S.A."

NEMESIS, IN THE SHAPE OF AN ABANDONED CHILD, LEADS TO TRAITOR'S UNDOING.

Production ..... Wm. Fox
Star ..... June Caprice
Type ..... Patriotic Drama
Length ..... Five Parts

Shown by Wm. Fox last Wednesday at the Super Cinema, "Miss U.S.A." relates how June is left an orphan, at the mercy of an uncle who, in order to enrich himself, commissions the nurse to do away with the child. The nurse brings the child up as her own, and on her death-bed is able to inform Major Boyce, a rich relation of the child, now a bewitching girl of seventeen, of the identity of her charge. The old soldier hurries to claim the long-lost child, and takes her to his home, where she falls in love with Herbert Grayson. War breaking out, Herbert joins the American Army, and is encamped near by. June is instrumental in foiling a conspiracy, leading to the arrest of the traitor, who turns out to be none other than the brutal uncle, who had planned to have her murdered. Dainty June Caprice plays the rôle—the most ambitious she has yet undertaken—in fine style. Many fine pictures of camp life are included in the film, which met with much favour.

[See our Film Markings.]

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"THE FATAL RING."

PEARL WHITE IN INCIDENTS MORE THRILLING, HAIR-RAISING, AND CONVULSIVELY EXCITING THAN EVER BEFORE.

Production..Pathé Frères Cinema, Ltd.
Star ..... Pearl White
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Twenty Episodes
Distributors ..... Pathé

A new Pathé serial, featuring Pearl White, was presented at the Pathé Roof Garden Theatre, Wardour-street, on New Year's Day. It is fairly safe to say that although millions have seen the beautiful Pearl go through adventures, any one of which would have reduced the ordinary woman in the street to drivelling idiocy, and come out unscathed and more beautiful and lovable than ever, never have her most fervent admirers witnessed her triumphant survival of events more terrific, harrowing, exciting, inspiring than those that overtake her here. She appears as Pearl Standish, the richest girl in America, and discovers that the Violet Diamond, left her by her father, has been stolen. She pursues her search for the jewel, in spite of awful and continuous danger, and is aided by a young reporter, Tom Carlton. Her enemies are the Priestess of the Violet God and her satellites, and Carslake, formerly secretary to Mr. Standish. They, working separately, use every means to accomplish the death of the intrepid girl. She is in turn enclosed within slowly crushing walls, is in imminent danger by drowning, of meeting death at the point of a revolver, by burning on the rails when an express is due, in a struggle with Carslake by falling from a girder connecting two house-roofs, and by a dozen other equally ingenious ways. Each incident is left at a breathless point, and is extremely well told and produced. The play is most cleverly acted, not only by Miss Pearl White, but also by Mr. Warner Oland as Carslake, Miss Maud Hoffman as the Priestess, and Mr. Henry Gaell as Tom Carleton.

[See our Film Markings.]

"WHOSO FINDETH A WIFE."

AN UNLUCKY MARRIAGE AND A NOBLE RESOLVE.

Production ..... Ideal
Star ..... Miss Jean Sothern
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts

Screened at the West-End Cinema on Friday, the Ideal picture play, "Whoso Findeth a Wife," founded on a novel by J. Wesley Putnam, has some powerful situations, and is finely pictured and played. Described as a reply to Hall Caine's story, "The Woman Thou Gavest Me," which deals with the problem of married misery, and the easiest way out—divorce—"Whoso Findeth a Wife" seeks to show that if a couple are unhappily wedded, relief is not to be found in seeking his or her liberty, but in the triumph of one's better self, and the resolve to make the best of the marriage tie. A young girl, to please her mother, weds a rich man, for whom she has no love, on condition that she is his wife in name only. Tempted by a former lover, she is found by her husband in his embrace, and the husband, after financially ruining the other man, proposes to release his wife from the marriage tie (realising that she does not love him), and also to give her lover monetary assistance. Finally, however, the wife recognises the worth and devotion of the man she has married, and giving her lover his congé there is a prospect of happiness at last for the couple. The story, if not always convincing, is adroitly handled, and is interesting throughout. Miss Jean Sothern eloquently realises the cahracter of the young wife, and all the other parts are well played.

[See our Film Markings.]

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THE RAGGED MESSENGER
STARRING
BASIL GILL, VIOLET HOPSON, GERALD AMES,
Also "Our Naval Air Power" Official film, showing Growth of its Men, Methods, and Machines. Sparkling Comedies, &c.

shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Friday, is a stern and iron-handed rancher, who is king of his own district, and brooks no interference with his will. When a new settler appeared on the scene his intention was to drive him away sans ceremony. But when, in answer to his peremptory summons, the door is opened by a dainty young woman, the rough and brutal nature of the man melts; eventually he asks the girl to marry him, and this she somewhat diffidently consents to do. The wedding is arranged, but when her old sweetheart, whom she had believed dead, turns up, she decides to go away with him, but "Wolf Lowry" gets scent of this, and attacking his rival, ties him to a tree as prey for the wolves, afterwards returning home with the intention of compelling his future wife to stick to her bargain. But his better nature ultimately prevails, and at the last moment he rescues his rival from the wolves, and lets him take his place at the wedding. Acting powerful, and scenery wild and beautiful.

[See our Film Markings.]

"A HINDU HOODOO."

AMUSING EXPOSURE OF A HINDU FROM IRELAND.

Production ..... Triangle-Keystone
Stars .. Geo. Binns and Maude Wayne
Type ..... Comedy
Length ..... Two Parts

The above amusing skit on the alleged occult powers of certain Hindu tribes was also shown. The crystal gazer in question, as a result of the too-searching investigation pursued by a couple of men

"NORTH OF FIFTY-THREE."

THRILLING STORY OF LOVE AMID THE SNOWS.

Production ..... Wm. Fox
Stars ....Dustin Farnum and Winifred Kingston.
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts

A story laid in the snowy wastes of the Far North-West was also pictured. To the wild neighbourhood comes Hazel Weir, to teach in the school. She and Bill Wagstaff, a trapper, instinctively take to each other, but when he carries her off against her will to his hut in the mountains she is furious at his high-handed conduct, and refuses to tolerate him for a moment. But Bill, by his chivalry, eventually triumphs, and when later, compassionately offering to take her home again, Hazel realises that she has need of this rough and primitive fellow, and we leave them at the end, happy and content in the wild but peaceful region "North of Fifty-three." The scenery is magnificent.

[See our Film Markings.]

"THE GOLDEN IDIOT."

POPULAR BRYANT WASHBURN IN A FINE PART.

Production ..... Essanay
Star ..... Bryant Washburn
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Length ..... Five Parts
Controllers ..Film Booking Offices, Ltd.

"The Golden Idiot" was shown at the West End Cinema on Thursday, and proved to be of a most enjoyable nature. It features Bryant Washburn, one of the most likeable and natural performers on the screen, in a part peculiarly suitable to him, full of good humour and laughable situations. Barry Owen is a light-hearted and irresponsible young journalist, who, unfit for work "one morning after the night before," is unceremoniously "fired." A trifle ashamed of himself, he decides to eschew city life, and sets out on foot for the open country. He makes friends with "Pod," a derelict terrier, who forthwith follows him everywhere. On his journey Barry is instrumental in repairing a broken-down motor-car, thus earning the grateful thanks of the fair occupant. How Barry later comes into a fat legacy, and again under romantic circumstances meets the lady of the car, is told in a number of quaint, laughable, and highly human episodes, the culminating one, of course, ending in the betrothal of Barry and the charming motorist. We congratulate Mr.

"THE GOLDEN IDIOT." [Film Booking Office.

Bryant Washburn and the Essanay Co. on a fine success, which should, and will, be extensively booked.

[See our Film Markings.]

"LOVE'S INNOCENCE."

A PLEASING STORY, WITH VIVIDLY CONTRASTING SCENES OF RURAL AND TOWN LIFE.

Production ..... Thanhouser
Stars .. Gladys Hulette, Wm. Parke, Jr., and Baby Gerald Badgley
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Acts

"Love's Innocence" was screened at the Thanhouser Theatre, Wardour-street, on Wednesday afternoon. The innocent country maiden is a favourite heroine with the inventor of film stories, and one cannot but recognise that she readily lends herself to interesting developments. In the present instance her name is Phœbe Lester, and she is a help at a lonesome farm owned by Farmer Brown and his wife. A great event in her young life is the arrival from the great city she is so anxious to see of a boarder, who has come in search of rest and quiet. Of course, the young man, Philip by name, and the girl quickly fall in love with each other. When he leaves the farm he promises to send for Phœbe and make her his wife, but she does not wait for the summons, as she is dreadfully pestered by the attentions of a middle-aged farmer. Phœbe's adventures when she does reach the big city are of the kind that await the unsophisticated country girl, but she discovers Philip, and he marries her. For a time the matrimonial venture seems likely to end in disaster, through the scheming of the wealthy villain of the usual type, but eventually the clouds clear away and the young couple are once more happy. The parts of hero and heroine have ideal representatives in Wm. Parke, Jr., and Gladys Hulette, and mention should also be made of the important part in the story played by Baby Gerald Badgley, who appears in the rôle of the child adopted by Frank.

[See our Film Markings.]

THREE COMEDY FILMS.

At the Thanhouser Theatre on Wednesday afternoon three "Vim" comedies were shown, respectively entitled "Thirty Days," "Comrades," and "A Sticky Affair," length 1,000 feet each. The first-mentioned featured Plump and Runt, the fat man and his little friend getting a month's imprisonment for participation in a game of cards at a gambling den. They are both newly-married men, and after the expiration of their sentence, their efforts to rid themselves of an undesirable prison acquaintance is decidedly amusing, the problem being eventually solved by the two wives. "The Comrades" features Pokes and Jabbs, and the fun is caused by some comical happenings in a boarding-house, Pokes taking the leading part in a succession of bustling scenes. In "A Sticky Affair" Plump and Runt are again featured.

"WHO WAS THE OTHER MAN?"

REMARKABLE RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN TWO MEN ENABLES ONE OF THEM TO EXPOSE PLOT AGAINST HIS COUNTRY.

Production ..... Butterfly Picture
Star ..... Francis Ford
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... 4,742 Feet
Release ..... May 6, 1918
Distributors ..... Gaumont's

The above picture was shown to the trade at Gaumont's Private Theatre on four afternoons last week. It is a story of the efforts of a gang of secret agents to obtain possession of important American State papers. James Walbert is the exact double of Schumann, the plotter's continental agent, and through this striking resemblance he becomes possessed of information which enables him to defeat their machinations, serve his Government, and open the way to the reconciliation of a pair of lovers. Mr. Francis Ford acts with ability and infuses life into the character of James Walbert, and the acting of the other members of the cast is competent.

Bridlington.

The principal pictures at the Grand Pavilion Cinema are "Altar Chains," "Happiness," and "The Girl Philippa."

The Palace Picture House presents "Little Miss April," No. 7 of "The 'Frisco Girl," "Faith," and episode 12 of "Pearl of the Army."

FILMLAND GOSSIP

Mr. Sydney Wynbergen.

Mr. Sydney Wynbergen asks us to state that on Sunday next, Jan. 13, he will hold a trade show on behalf of Messrs. Asley's Exclusives of "Bought and Paid For" at the Scala, Birmingham, at 3.30.

Leeds Military Hospital Cinema.

The Gledhow Hall Hospital at Leeds was the scene of "a double event" on New Year's Eve, when the first set of pictures shown by the hospital cinema were produced, and a presentation of a clock was made to the Commandant (Miss Cliff).

The funds for the purchase of the cinema have been raised by a sale of work and by private donations, and, judging by the warm reception given to the pictures on Monday evening, the venture is going to prove a great success. The films for the opening performance were kindly lent by the Fox Film Co. and the Gaumont Film Service. It is hoped that, through the courtesy of the various film firms in Leeds, it will be possible to give two performances weekly. No charge will, of course, be made, as the cinema has been provided solely for the entertainment of the wounded soldiers. At the close of the proceedings a presentation of an eight-day oak clock was made to the Commandant by Co.-Sergt.-Major Livesey, on behalf of the patients. In a neatly worded speech the Sergeant-Major alluded to the keen appreciation of the Gledhow boys for the care and attention that was untiringly bestowed upon them by every member of the staff, and a special round of applause was given for the nurses.

Ideal.

There has been an idea in the trade that Western films are quite out of date. The public was supposed to have quite tired of the cowboys and their wild riding and pistol shots.

The other day, however, a well-known paper raised a loud, if humorous, protest against this idea.

Looking at the matter from a public point of view, the writer declared himself anything but out of love with the Western film, and this view seems to be confirmed by the "Ideal's" experience of their picture, "The Bargain," which is released this week.

This is a Western picture, but it has contrived, at release date, to secure nearly 250 bookings, and is now booking better than ever.

"The Bargain" has a good deal more stuffing in it than mere exploits out West. It has a really strong and gripping story. Those on the look-out for a popular picture of this kind could not do better than enquire for "The Bargain."

Film Booking Offices.

Film Booking Offices are showing one of their most ambitious programmes on Thursday next, at the West End Cinema, at 11.0 a.m. This will consist of the first four of a series of pictures entitled "Do Children Count?" Anything to do with children's welfare and child life just now is most apropos, for the importance of children to the State has at last been realised. But apart from this, there is a real live interest in all these twelve pictures. They are all independent stories, crisp, and holding in interest, with little Mary McAlister, the wonderful Essanay star child actress, taking the leading part in each, so that there is a strong double attraction for exhibitors in this notable series.

Gaumont.

The Gaumont Film Hire Service have decided to issue a set of six short and snappy two-reel features. Each one has been selected on account of a particular appeal, which has variety in each case, so as to make the whole set as varied as possible. "The Lion's Lair" is an animal "stunt" drama, "Texas Sphinx" is a Western story with a big surprise at the end; "Saving the Fast Mail" has a good railway stunt, and features Helen Gibson; "Double Suspicion" is a story of an amazing Western partnership; "The Golden Heart," which features Zoe Rae, has a pathetic appeal to the emotions, and "The Vultures and the Law" is stuffed with plenty of punch and a thrilling chase. The G.F.H.S. are issuing four-sheet posters printed in four colours, and of the very best workmanship, for each of these films.

Exhibitors are awaiting further details of select pictures, which, I am told,

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ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Tuesday morning in each week?]

PLAYS.

Abbott, Ernest.—Jan. 7, Prince's, Blackburn; 14, T.R., Leicester.
A'Dell (Evelyn).—Jan. 7, T.R., West Bromwich; 14, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Adventure of Lady Ursula, The.—Jan. 14, West Pier, Brighton.
Aladdin (Clare's Co.).—Jan. 7, Metropole, Bootle.
Aladdin (Fred Clements).—Jan. 7, T.R., Huddersfield.
Aladdin (Lola Charme's Co.).—Jan. 7, Alhambra, Leith.
Aladdin (P. T. Selbit's Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Bolton.
All of a Sudden Peggy.—Jan. 7, T.R., Norwich.
Allington Charsley Rep. Co.—Jan. 7, Lyceum, Dumfries.
Ann, Beauchamp, and Beecham (Haldane Crichton). — Jan. 7, Playhouse, Faversham; 14, South Parade Pier, Southsea.
Apple of Eden, The.—Jan. 7, T.R., Stratford, E.
Arcadians, The (Courtneidge, No. 1).—Jan. 7, W.G.T., Southport; 14, W.G.T., Blackpool.
Austin (Mary) Co.—Jan. 14, O.H., Burton-on-Trent.
Babes in the Wood (J. Bannister Howard's Co.).—Jan. 7, O.H., Dudley; 14, Grand, Swansea.
Babes in the Wood (George Wayne's Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Rotherhithe.
Babes in the Wood (S. Sax's Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Aston.
Babes in the Wood (Venfom Swift's Co.).—Jan. 7, Empire, Rotherham; 14, Metropole, Manchester.
Babes in the Wood (Yates Gregory's Co.).—Jan. 7, Llandudno.
Babes in the Wood (Ike and Will Scott's Co.).—Jan. 7, Empire, West Hartlepool.
Back Home in Tennessee.—Jan. 7, Palace, Newcastle; 14, T.R., Whitehaven.
Beauty and the Beast (Grapho's Co.).—Jan. 7, New T., Crewe.
Beauty and the Beast (Moreton Powell's Co.).—Jan. 7, Empire, Swindon.
Better 'Ole, The.—Jan. 7, New T., Oxford; 14, R.C.T., Warrington.
Betty (George Edwardes).—Jan. 7, T.R., Brighton; 14, T.R., York.
Betty (Macdonald and Young).—Jan. 7, Wellingboro' (3), Kettering (3); 14, T.R., Grantham.
Bonnie Brier Bush, The.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Falkirk; 14, Empire, Motherwell.
Bo-Peep (Kiddie's Co.).—Jan. 7, Grand, Oldham.
Boy, The (Alfred Butt).—Jan. 7, King's, Glasgow; 14, King's, Glasgow.
Broken Trail, The.—Jan. 7, King's, Gainsborough.
Carl Rosa Opera Co., The.—Jan. 7, Grand, Sheffield; 14, Grand, Sheffield.
Carminetta (N. Graham and E. Waller).—Jan. 7, H.M.T., Aberdeen; 14, T.R., Bolton.
Casey (Will) Co. — Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Stoke; 14, Rushden (3), Wellingborough (3).
Christian, The.—Jan. 7, T.R., Bury St. Edmunds; 14, Grand, Peterborough.
Christmas Dream, A.—Jan. 7, O. H., Buxton; 14, T.R., Leamington.
Cinderella (Stephenson and Norris's Co.). —Jan. 7, T.R., Windsor.
Cinderella (F. Buxton's Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Stockport.
Cinderella (Wm. Pardoe's Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Dewsbury; 14, Grand, Halifax.
Come Back to Erin.—Jan. 7, Palace, Amanford.
Cottage Girl, The.—Jan. 7, T.R., Leicester; 14, Victoria, Lye, Stourbridge.
Crossley (Stephen Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Crook.
Daddy Long-Legs (Gilbert Miller's Co.). —Jan. 7, Grand, Blackpool; 14, T.R., Brighton.
Daddy Long-Legs.—Jan. 7, New T., Birkenhead.
Daddy's Girl. — Jan. 7, T.R., Middlesbrough; 14, T.R., West Stanley.
Damaged Goods (East Co.).—Jan. 7, Queen's, Keighley; 14, Hippodrome, Leigh.
Damaged Goods (South Co.).—Jan. 7, Palace, Warrington; 14, Palace, Carlisle.
Damaged Goods (West Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Canterbury; 14, Hippodrome, Golders Green.
Dick Whittington (C. A. Edwardes's Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Winchester.
Dobell's (W. L.) Repertory Company.—Jan. 7, Oxmortown Hall, Birr (4); 11, Temperance Hall, Roscrea (4); 16, Town Hall, Nenagh.
Double Escape, The.—Jan. 7, Palace, Hull.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Jan. 7, P.O.W., Birmingham; 13, P.O.W., Birmingham.
East Lynne (Fenton).—Jan. 7, Theatre, Colchester.
Edmonds (E. Vivian) Co.—Jan. 14, Mexborough.
Eliza Comes to Stay.—Jan. 7, Royalty, Chester; 14, T.R., Huddersfield.
End of the Game, The.—Jan. 7, Grand, Aberavon.
Enemy in Our Midst, The.—Jan. 7, T.R., Stratford, E.
Fatal Wedding, The.—Jan. 7, Palace, Durham; 14, Globe, Consett.
Fishermaid of Old St. Malo, The.—Jan. 7, Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Frank Liston.—Jan. 7, Palace, Durham; 14, Globe, Consett.
Gayest of the Gay, The.—Jan. 7, Palace, Nelson.
Ghosts (Leigh Lovell's Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Aston; 14, H.M.T., Carlisle.
Girl from America, The.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Cannock.
Girl Mother, The.—Jan. 7, Junction, Manchester; 14, Hippodrome, Salford.
Glenville (Matthew H.).—Jan. 14, T.R., West Stanley.
Happy Day, The (George Edwardes' Co.). —Jan. 7, Palace, Barnsley; 14, Opera House, Dudley.
Henry Baynton's Repertory Co.—Jan. 7, Empire, Oswestry; 14, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.
Henry L. Osmond.—Jan. 7, O.H., Coventry; 14, Hippodrome, Nuneaton.
Herbert Shelley.—Jan. 7, Prince's, Portsmouth.
Her Favourite Son.—Jan. 7, Playhouse, Llanelleth; 14, Grand, Aberavon.
Her Forbidden Sacrifice. — Jan. 7, T.R., West Bromwich; 14, T.R., Wednesbury.
Her Love Against the World (Sidney Bransgrove's Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Putney, S.W.; 14, Hippodrome, Poplar, E.
Hindle Wakes.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Darwen; 14, O.H., Northampton.
Hinton (Arthur).—Jan. 7, T.R., Scarborough.
His Last Leave.—Jan. 7, T.R., Jarrow; 14, T.R., Middlesbrough.
His Mother's Rosary.—Jan. 7, Grand, Falkirk; 14, Mechanics' Hall, Dumfries.
His Wife's Good Name.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Stoke.
Humpty-Dumpty (Howard and Wyndham's Co.).—T.R., Edinburgh (till further notice).
Humpty-Dumpty (Wm. de Lacy).—Jan. 7, Grand, Halifax; 14, Regent, Salford.
In the Trenches.—Jan. 14, Hippodrome, Birmingham.
Irish Players, The.—Jan. 7, Town Hall, Galway; 14, Palace, Blackpool.
Jack and the Beanstalk (Benet).—Jan. 7, Grand, Luton; 14, W.G.T., New Brighton.
Jack and the Beanstalk (Harry Russell's Co.).—Jan. 7, Regent, Salford.
Jenny Omroyd of Oldham.—Jan. 7, Palace, Barnoldswick; 14, T.R., Stockton.
John Raymond's Daughter.—Jan. 7, T.R., Bedford, Leigh.
Just a Little Pair of Shoes.—Jan. 7, Pavilion, Pontnewyndd; 14, New T., Bargoed.
Kick-In.—Jan. 7, O.H., Scarborough; 14, Lyceum, Ipswich.
King's Vale Mystery, The.—Jan. 7, Prince's, Portsmouth.
Knowles (J. Forbes) Rep. Co.—Jan. 7, Palace, Nelson.
Land of Promise, The.—Jan. 7, Grand, West Hartlepool; 14, Queen's, Leeds.
Lass of Dingley Moor.—Jan. 7, Prince's, Portsmouth; 14, Palace, Redditch.
Leonard Laurence Repertoire Co.—Jan. 7, T.R., Wolverhampton; 14, Grand, Derby.
Light that Leads Me Home, The.—Jan. 7, Empire, Edmonton.
Little Goody Two Shoes.—Jan. 7, O.H., Coventry; 14, Hippodrome, Nuneaton.
Little Grey Home in the West.—Jan. 7, Palace, Weston-super-Mare; 14, Olympia, Tredegar.
London Pride (Curzon and Du Maurier's Co.).—Jan. 7, Grand, Southport; 14, T.R., Bournemouth.
Love Marriage.—Jan. 7, T.R., Darlington.
Lodge-Percy Rep. Co.—Jan. 7, Empire, Mountain Ash; 14, Empire, Mountain Ash.
Maid of the Midnight Sun.—Jan. 7, O.H., Kirkcaldy; 14, Theatre, Paisley.
Maid of the Mill, The.—Jan. 7, 8, and 12, T.R., Stanley.
Maid of the Mountains.—Jan. 7, Eastbourne (3), Hastings (3); 14, P.G.T., Folkestone.
Maid of the Mountains, The (Macdonald and Young's Co.).—Jan. 7, Grand, Accrington.
Marriage Market, The.—Jan. 7, T.R., Barry; 14, Empire, Tonypandy.
Middy, V.C., Comes Home, The.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Mill Girl's Wedding, A.—Jan. 7, Prince's, Portsmouth; 14, Palace, Redditch.
Millward (John S.).—Jan. 7, Workmen's Hall, Ynyshir; 14, Workmen's Hall, Ynyshir.
Monty's Flapper.—Jan. 7, T.R., Watford; 14, T.R., Winchester.
Mother Goose (A. E. Smith's Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Stockton; 14, Hippodrome, Salisbury.
Mother Hubbard (Cromo and Hamilton).—Jan. 7, T.R., Aldershot; 14, Palace, Watford.
Mother Hubbard (McKelvie's Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Hamilton.
Mother's Sacrifice, A.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Stoke.
Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace.—Jan. 7, New T., Salisbury.
My Bonny Jean.—Jan. 4, King's, Kilmarnock.
My Home in Kentucky.—Jan. 7, Grand, Doncaster.
My Lady Frayle.—Jan. 7, Grand, Lancaster.
Night of Gladness, A.—Jan. 7, Coliseum, Shortcham; 14, Royal Palace, Ramsgate.
Oh, I Say! — Jan. 7, T.R., York; 14, King's, Oswestry.
O'Mara Opera Co.—Jan. 7, T.R., Merthyr.
Ormond (Fred) Co.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Wrexham; 14, Alexandra, Pontefract.
Peg o' My Heart (Macdonald and Young). —Jan. 7, Lyceum, Ipswich; 14, T.R., Norwich.
Perfect Day, A.—Jan. 7, Alexandra, Pontefract (5).
Picture Girl, The (Bellamy No. 1 Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Liverpool; 14, Scala, Seacombe.
Pitman's Daughters, A.—Jan. 7, T.R., Darlington.
Pride of the Regiment.—Jan. 7, T.R., Smethwick; 14, T.R., Aston.
Quinneys' (Fredk. Harrison).—Jan. 7, Royalty, Barrow; 14, T.R., North Shields.
Raynor Rep. Co.—Jan. 7, T.R., Lincoln; 14, T.R., Lincoln.
Red Riding Hood (Andie Caine's Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Salford; 14, Hippodrome, Preston.
Red Riding Hood (Brydon Phillips).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Goodere's Green.
Red Riding Hood (Firth's Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Mexborough.
Ridding (John) Opera Co.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Greenock; 14, Pavilion, Galashiels.
Robin Hood (Clarence's Co.).—Jan. 7, Metropole, Gateshead; 14, Grand, West Hartlepool.
Robinson Crusoe (Ernest Dottridge's Co.).—Jan. 7, O.H., St. Helens; 14, Royalty, Chester.
Robinson Crusoe (Murray, King and Clarke).—Jan. 7, P.G.T., Folkestone; 14, O.H., Tunbridge Wells.
Roll of Honour.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Dover.
Romance.—Jan. 7, King's, Sunderland; 14, Hippodrome, Darlington.
Rotters, The (Arthur Gibbons).—Jan. 7, County, Reading; 14, T.R., Guildford.
Royal Divorce, A.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Nottingham; 14, T.R., Birkenhead.
Sally in Society.—Jan. 7, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester; 14, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.
Serpent of Eden, The.—Jan. 11, Alexandra, Pontefract (1).
Seven Days' Leave (Red Co.).—Jan. 7, O.H., Cheltenham; 14, Opera House, Coventry.
Seven Days' Leave (White Co.).—Jan. 7, Empire, South Shields; 14, Empire, Sunderland.
Sinbad (Fred Clements and Donald Keir's Co.).—Jan. 7, Lyceum, Newport; 14, Lyceum, Newport.
Sinbad the Sailor (Joe Collins's Co.).—Jan. 7, Empire, Camberwell.
Sinbad the Sailor (Watson).—Jan. 7, Empire, Middlesbrough; 14, Tivoli, New Brighton.
Southern Maid, A (George Edwardes' Co.). —Jan. 7, Prince's, Manchester; 14, Prince's, Manchester.
Spirit of the Empire, The.—Jan. 8, T.R., Inverness; 15, T.R., Inverness.
Swift (Ventom) Co.—Jan. 7, Empire, Rotherham.
Theodore and Co. (Grossmith and Laurillard Co.).—Jan. 7, Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Third Man, The.—Jan. 9, T.R., Stanley (3).
Three Weeks (North Co.).—Jan 7, O.H., Blackpool; 14, Opera House, Southport.
Three Weeks (South Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Leamington; 14, T.R., Canterbury.
Tommy Trotter.—Jan. 7, Olympia, Glasgow.
Toto.—Jan. 7, R.C.T., Wigan; 14, T.R., Bury.
Two Little Vagbonds (Bransgrove).—Jan 7, Hippodrome, Croydon.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Jan. 7, T.R., White haven.
Under Two Flags (Fenton).—Jan. 14, T.R., Colchester.
Unmarried Mother, The.—Jan. 7, Metropole, Glasgow.
Wallace (G. Carlton).—Jan. 7, T.R., Stratford.
Wanted, a Husband!—Jan. 7, Scarborough.
Ward (T. Edward). — Jan. 7, Junction, Hulme; 14, T.R., Bilston.
What Every Girl Can Do!—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Wrexham; 14, Alexandra, Pontefract.
Within the Law.—Jan. 7, O.H., Perth; 14, H.M.T., Aberdeen.
Young Minister, The (No. 1 Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Altrincham; 14, Hippodrome, Darwen.

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Parr, Miss Nellie
Pearson, Mr. Robt.
Pink, Mrs. Flo
Pierce, Miss Jeanette
Powell, Mr. Alfred
Prairies, The Four
Ravenswood, Edwin
Ray, Mr. Harry
Ray, Mr. Phil
Rene, Miss Ida
Richardson, Mr. J.
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Rodia, Mme.
Rose, Mr. George
Ross, Miss Billy
Rousby, Mr. H.
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Rutland, Miss Eveline
Scott, Mr. Phillip
Sharman, Mr. John
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Trevor
Tully, Mr. Vincent
Turner, Mrs. G.
Unett, Miss Margaret
Upton, Mr. W. K.
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Vere, Miss Grace
Vine, Mr. Douglas
Vyvyan, Miss Mollie
Wade, Standley
Wade, Miss Emmie
Walker, Miss Beatrice
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Wynn, Miss Bessie
Yorke, Mr. Augustes
Zola, Little

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REVUES.

Adams and Eves.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Colchester.
All Bluff. — Jan. 7, Hippo., Stockton-on-Tees; 14, Hippodrome, Leigh.
All British!—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Margate.
All Change Here!—Jan. 7, Palace, Maidstone.
Bing Boys Are Here, The (Midland Co.).—Jan. 7, T.R., Rochdale; 14, T.R., Halifax.
Blighty.—Jan. 7, T.R., King's Lynn; 14, T.R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Bluff Boys, The. — Jan. 7, Public Hall, Runcorn; 14, Hippodrome, Lancaster.
Bubble and Squeak.—Jan. 7, Empire, Gateshead; 14, Empire, Chatham.
Canival Girl, The.—Jan. 7, Tivoli, Aberdeen; 14, Gateshead.
Crackers.—Jan. 7, Palace, Chatham.
Flying Colours.—Jan. 7, Empire, Newport.
Frills and Drills.—Jan. 7, The Middlesex, London.
Frills and Fancies.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Queen's Park, Manchester; 14, Hippodrome, Salford.
Good-by-ee!—Jan. 7, Empire, Newport.
Hanky-Panky.—Jan. 7, Empire, Sheffield.
Heave O! (No. 1 Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, St. Helens; 14, Hippodrome, Chesterfield.
Heave O! (No. 2 Co.).—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Maryport; 14, Grand, Lancaster.
Hello, Baby!—Jan. 7, Empire, Garston.
High Explosives.—Jan. 7, W.G.T., New Brighton; 14, Empire, Middlesbrough.
Hold Tight!—Jan. 14, T.R., Leigh.
House that Jerry Built, The.—Jan. 7, Empire, Wolverhampton.
Kodak Girl.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Derby; 14, Empire, Wolverhampton.
Joyland.—Jan. 7, Empress, Brixton, S.W.
Lads of the Village, The.—Jan. 7, Palace, East Ham.
Life and Laughter.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Bilston.
Mirth and Melody.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Southampton.
Mumming Birds.—Jan. 7, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness; 14, Empire, Cardiff.
My Son Sammy.—Jan. 7, Metropole, Openshaw; 14, Hippodrome, Wigan.
Next, Please.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Bolton; 14, Empire, Garston.
Ocean Waves.—Jan. 7, Empire, Liverpool.
Odds On!—Jan. 7, Palace, Tottenham; 14, Empress, Brixton, S.W.
Peaches (No. 1 Co.).—Jan. 7, Lyric, Liverpool
Pekin to Paris.—Jan. 7, T.R., Leigh.
Pleasure Bound.—Jan. 7, Empire, New Cross; 14, Empire, Stratford, E.
She Slipped.—Jan. 7, Palace, Bordesley.
Ship Ahoy!—Jan. 7, Empire, Maryport; 14, Grand, Lancaster.
Smile!—Jan. 7, Palace, Oldham.
Some Girls.—Jan. 7, Rotunda, Liverpool; 14, Palace, Grimsby.
Some Treasure.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Stockport; 14, Empire, Longton.
Sugar Baby, The.—Jan. 7, Alhambra, Bradford; 14, Manchester.
That's Enough!—Jan. 7, Coliseum, Long Eaton.
Tiddley-Winks.—Jan. 7, Tivoli, New Brighton.
Trifles.—Jan. 7 Grand, Stockton.
Trip to Tynemouth.—Jan. 7, T.R., South Shields; 14, Empire, Gateshead.
Vanity Fair.—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Portsmouth; 14, Hippodrome, Brighton.
Where's the Chicken? — Jan. 7, Grand, Mansfield; 14, Hippodrome, Boscombe.
You Never Know!—Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Nuneaton; 14, Gloucester.
You'd Laugh If You Knew!—Jan. 7, O.H., Wakefield.
Zig-Zag. — Jan. 7, Hippodrome, Birkenhead; 14, Empire, Liverpool.

CONCERT PARTIES.

A La Mode.—Jan. 7, Agricultural Hall, Norwich; 14, Palace, Stamford.
All Sir Garnets.—Jan. 7, Town Hall, Holt; 14, Town Hall, Sheringham.
Anglo-Indian Concert Party, The.—Jan. 7, Town Hall, Holt; 14, Town Hall, Sheringham.
Air-Belles, The.—Jan. 7, Institute, Swanage.
Blighty Entertainers, The.—Jan. 7, Palace, Newport.
Catlin's Royal Pierrots. — Jan. 7, Albert Hall, Leeds; 14, Albert Hall, Leeds.
Champagne.—Jan. 14, Garrison, Bulford.
Entrees, The.—Jan. 7, Spa, Bridlington; 14, Lyric, Hull.
Havard Sextette, The.—Jan. 7, West End Cinema, Edinburgh; 14, Tivoli, Dundee.
Hustlers, The.—Jan. 7, Lyric, Hull; 14, Lyric, Hull.
Maids and Middies.—Jan. 7, Olympian Gardens, Cromer.
Merry Players, The.—Jan. 7, Albert Hall, Annan.
Queers, The.—Jan. 7, Rusholme, Manchester.
Radiums, The.—Jan. 7, Anglesey Palace, Burton; 14, Queen's Hall, Otley.
Royal Scarlet Entertainers.—Jan. 7, Electric T., Newport Pagnell.
Summits, The.—Jan. 7, Kursaal, Whitley Bay; 14, Kursaal, Whitley Bay.
Superbs, The.—Jan. 14, Anglesey Palace, Burton-on-Trent.
Superbs, Les.—Jan. 7, Winter Hall, Leamington Spa.
Warbiers, The.—Jan. 7, O.H., Cork.
Wits, The.—Jan. 7, Lyric, Hull; 14, Rusholme Pavilion, Manchester.

Through an oversight, the name of Mr. Eddy Foy (brother of the late Tom Foy) was omitted from our notice of "Cinderella" at the Royal, Plymouth. Mr. Foy is a most amusing Pickles, the page, and made one of the hits of the pantomime with his kitchen scene and cat performance.

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—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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—*Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT HASTINGS.

Messrs. Murray King and Clark have scored a notable success with "Robinson Crusoe," presented at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, last week. In Scene 6, In the Depths of the Sea, a really beautiful set, is introduced La Pia, whose serpentine transformation dance was by itself worth a visit to witness.

Miss Lillie Langtry made a capital Robinson, acting with dash and smartness. The Dame Martha of Mr. Murray King was splendid, and his song, "That's the Stuff to Give 'Em," met with great applause. Mr. Jack Straw as Will Atkins made a great success; Miss May Maidie was piquant and pretty as Polly; and Miss Daisy Mead was a charming Fairy Queen. Billy Bent as Ben Bunion, and Harry Zietz as Man Friday provided plenty of good fun. The production, by Mr. H. Zietz, was on a gorgeous scale.

"THE BABES" AT BRADFORD.

Pantomime tradition was revived at the Theatre Royal here on Boxing Day, when Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth, the lessee, presented his first Christmas production, "The Babes in the Wood," to a crowded audience, whose verdict of approval augers well for the success of his venture. The excellent libretto is written by Mr. Jos. L. Barry, and the tuneful music is by Herbert Barnes and Robert Sedgwick. The scenic effects are very fine, Nottingham Fair, The Enchanted Glade, and The Passing of time, claiming special notice. In the way of specialities we have a feast of good things, the most striking examples being a lovely transformation scene (reminiscent of old pantomime), which is revealed at the conclusion of the first half. a fully-equipped tram car, which crosses the stage, and the exquisite dancing of Miss Revel Yorke. In addition, the dancing of the Lottie Stone Troupe forms a distinct feature, and excellent work is also done by the Yale Sextette, and a smartly trained troupe of twenty clever little children. There is a delightful blending of colour in the beautiful dresses, a striking tribute to Mr. Hepworth's excellent good taste and judgment. Mr. Barry's version of the familiar story affords capital scope for the introduction of good and wholesome fun, and a company of good comedians have recognised the fact, for the humour is prolific.

Miss Christine Roy is the bold outlaw, Robin Hood, and she makes an ideal principal boy. She is bright, graceful, and the possessor of an excellent voice, which is heard to advantage in her songs, "Roses of Picardy," "Oh, it's a Lovely War," and also in "Down Texas Way." Miss Sybil Coulthurst is a dainty Maid Marian, who acts with much grace and sings sweetly, "Let the Great Big World Keep on Turning" and "Dream-Boat Where are You Floating?" The Fansettes are a smart couple in the rôles of Little John and Lavinia. The babes, Harold and Lucy, have winning little exponents in Miss Lily Hill and Edna Randall, and they dance very cleverly.

The dry humour of Mr. Matt Melrose (an excellent comedian) is quite irresistible, and he quaintly renders his song, "What is it Like to be Poor" in a funny conception of Sir-Brokah-de-Pawn (The Cruel Uncle). Gus Elton as Araminta, the School Mistress, is a screamingly funny Dame, whose eccentricities vastly amuse the audience, and his "Hark at Me" song is a hit. The Brothers Brooks are the indispensable Two Ruffians, and they infuse plenty of genuine fun into their parts of Bill and Georgie. Mr. George Pritchard does the little he has to do as Friar Tuck excellently; Razzle Dazzle, the page to Sir Brokah, is Freddie Foes, a combination of humour and agility, who sings "Keep An Eye on Your Girl, Bill," and "Nobody Loves Me," with much acceptance. Billie Clifford's Fly-by Night (the Demon) is a capable conception, and in Miss Nancy Hillaby we have a charming Sylvama (the Fairy Queen), whose rendering of "I'll Sing to You" is delightful. Much praise is due to Mr. Colin Bryce for the excellent work he accomplished in the way of the production of the pantomime.

A QUARTETTE OF SONGS.

From Messrs. Enoch and Sons comes Elsa Maxwell's "Carry On!" one of the most spirited and stirring of songs brought forth by the war, and which would have made a sure success, even if it hadn't the luck to be popularised by Miss Ethel Levey and Miss Violet Loraine.

May Brahe's "Good-bye, and God be with you," is appropriate not only to the moment but to all times. Its music deepens the note of tenderness and sincerity enshrined in P. J. O'Reilly's words. The hall-mark of the poet appears to be the ability to sing about fragrant gardens and blooming roses at a time when the ordinary mortal's preoccupation is how on earth to keep his feet warm. There's "never a cloud" in Edward Lockton's "Garden of Happiness," and where his "Little Connemara Rose" blooms "far beyond the sea, where I long to be," the flowers are always sweet and the trees always shady. (That garden isn't in our suburb.) Daniel Wood's music to the first has grace and tunefulness, and the second, by Stanley Dickson, possesses a taking refrain in waltz measure.

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Next Week—Ditto.

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This Week—"Pomponette."
Next Week—"Toto."

TH. ROYAL, NOTTINGHAM.
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This Week—"The House that Jack Built."
Next Week—Ditto

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THEATRE AND VARIETY AID FOR THE Y.M.C.A.

By THE EDITOR.

Rear-Admiral Mark Kerr, C.B., M.V.O., R.N., who was recently appointed Deputy Chief of Staff on Lord Rothermere's Air Council, has taken up the Theatre and Variety section of the appeal for £500,000 being made by the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., to wipe off the deficit from, and get some money in hand for, their work of maintaining and extending their chain of huts on all the battle-fronts and at home.

Admiral Kerr has consulted managers of the theatrical and variety professions, with the resulting suggestion that the following plan of action shall be carried out throughout the country:—

That each theatre and music hall shall be invited to give a special performance of their own entertainment between now and February 28, and that the takings from all theatres and music halls shall be pooled and given as a gift from the theatrical and variety professions in a lump sum, and that the individual sums from each theatre and music hall shall be acknowledged privately.

Sir Henry Tozer, Mr. Oswald Stoll, and Mr. Charles Gulliver have already agreed to this plan, and Admiral Kerr is communicating with all other managers and proprietors throughout the country as quickly as his new position on the Air Council permits. We hope that a full list of supporters of the scheme may be to hand in time for publication in the next issue of "The Era."

The benefits enjoyed from Y.M.C.A. huts by our soldiers and sailors are known to be of indescibable value, and the Admiral will, no doubt, continue to receive the greatest possible support. At any rate, the first few days of his work in this connection have given him every encouragement, and inspired him with hope for the success of his campaign.

SIR WM. ROBERTSON'S APPRECIATION.

General Sir William Robertson, in a communication to the National Council, says: "I wish you well in the enterprise you are undertaking to pay off the overdraft, and to enable the Y.M.C.A. to maintain and extend their great chain of huts for the men of the Navy and Army. I know what an inestimable benefit the provision of these huts is to the fighting services, and I cordially hope that all professions and trades will generously respond to this urgent call."

THE MOST CHARITABLE PROFESSION.

"I feel sure," says Admiral Kerr, "that the artistes and staff will support my scheme by giving their services for this great cause, because, in these days of national service, there are all classes of society in the ranks, and I suppose that everyone has some relation or friend who blesses the Y.M.C.A. huts and organisation in those parts of the Front where these establishments afford them comfort and quiet.

"It would be nothing short of a disaster if the Y.M.C.A. had to curtail their work, or, indeed, could not extend it.

"It is for this reason only that I have ventured to take up this appeal to the profession, which has always done more than its share of work for others. No one knows better than I do how they have responded to every call, and what a lot of unselfish work is done by many over-worked members of the most charitable profession in the world."

THE CALL FOR MORE HUTS.

The huts provided by the Y.M.C.A. often are the only places where men can go and rest, read and write, and have entertainments. They are invaluable in keeping up the *moral* and giving rest to the men, and generally are the only places where tea and writing-paper and books can be obtained.

The cry for more huts comes in continually from all Fronts, and the Y.M.C.A. have exceeded their balance and run into debt to the extent of £300,000.

It is necessary to pay off this debt and have a balance in hand for the ever-expanding wants of our fighting men.

To obtain at least £500,000 is their aim, and they have appealed to every trade and profession in the country.

Large sums are already coming in, headed by H.M. the King with a large subscription. Different people have been asked to organise the appeal to the various professions and trades, and, as stated already, Admiral Mark Kerr has undertaken the appeal to the theatrical and variety profession. His appeal, we are sure, will meet with every success.

THE PROFESSION WITH THE COLOURS

Private Arthur Clegg, address A Block, No. 9 Room, St. George's Barracks, Malta, would be very grateful if some kind artiste would send him an old wig, some costumes, and a pair of dancing shoes to enable him to appear at a series of entertainments that are being arranged.

Sub-Lieut. D. P. Christie, R.N., a nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, has been killed in action.

Friends will regret to hear that George Lockhart has been wounded by a shell, and has been sent to a hospital in England. His address is No. 35910, Pte. G. Lockhart, 1/5 Yorks and Lancs, Ward 14, North Evington War Hospital, Leicester.

DEATH OF SANDERSON MOFFAT.

Another name falls to be recorded on the Actors' Roll of Honour. It is that of Sanderson Moffat. His many friends, who loved and admired "Jamie," as they affectionately called him, will learn with a sense of personal loss of the passing of this fine actor and best of fellows. Jamie was no laggard at doing an act of kindness, and it was the predominant cheerful chivalry of his nature that made him join up when the war was scarcely a fortnight old, though he was then well over age. He went through the thick of it with his regiment, the South Staffords, until he was finally discharged as unfit in September last, suffering from the effects of enemy gas. Three operations were performed on his throat, where cancer had set in, but without avail, and he passed away at his residence on the first day of the New Year.

Sanderson Moffat had a long and varied experience on the stage. Beginning in his teens in stock at the Princess, Glasgow, he afterwards joined Ethel Arden, and then played leads with the late William Mollison. Following upon several years' touring with his own company came a long run of leading parts at Sadler's Wells, where he proved a great favourite. In later years he created the part of Dan Burrell (the policeman) in his brother, Graham Moffat's, famous play, "Bunty," and left that to go to America to create the part of Weelum in the New York production of the same play. While in America he also played with the late Lewis Waller. Shortly before the outbreak of the war Sanderson Moffat, together with his brother, Watson Hume Moffat, formed a partnership for the presentation of Scotch plays, among others being the successful "Bauldy." This partnership was carried on while Sanderson was engaged in the great adventure that led to his final exit.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. V. L.—*First appeared in 1861, at the age of six.*

OVUM.—*Cannot trace the author and publisher of recitations commencing "I wish I were a lady" and "I ain't done nothing to nobody." Perhaps one of our readers will oblige. (3) We only know one actor of the name, so your surmise is probably correct.*

BUXTON.—*Have never seen the comedian mentioned in anything but kilts, with the exception of an appearance in pantomime when he sported a pair of velveteen "shorts" (?). The nearest approach to the word is "chymist," French for chemist*

FUNDS, ETC.

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OLD FOLKS' NEW YEAR'S TREAT.

The tenth New Year's treat to the old performers arranged by the Benevolent Fund was held on Tuesday, Jan. 1, at the institution, "Brinsworth." The visitors from London, to the number of thirty, travelled down from Waterloo at 11.30, and on arrival at Twickenham cabs were waiting to drive them up to the "Pro's Paradise." A reception took place on arrival, when the residents enjoyed having a chat over old times with friends of the past. At one o'clock prompt dinner was served, the chair being taken, in the absence of Mr. Joe Elvin, the founder of the institution, by Mr. J. W. Cragg (hon. trustee of the fund), who was supported by Mrs. Cragg. Miss Lottie Albert, Miss Maude Mortimer, Mrs. Chas. Coborn, and Mrs. Fred W. Mills (the two latter ladies representing the Music Hall Ladies' Guild), Rev. Camplin Cogan (hon. chaplain of the institution), Mr. Monte Bayley (representing the executive committee). The menu comprised soup, turkey, and ham, plum pudding, and mince pies, and was voted excellent by all.

After an interval a capital concert was given, mainly by the old performers, who sang the ditties that were popular a generation and more ago.

During the proceedings a telegram was received from Mr. Joe Elvin, which read as follows:—"Regret unable to be with you to-day. Wish you all a happy old time; all good wishes for the New Year. God bless you all." When the above was read, Joe's health was proposed by the chairman and given with musical honours. Telegrams were dispatched to Mr. George Graves and Sir Thomas Dewar, wishing them a happy New Year, and thanks for generous assistance to the treat, the former having given £5 and the latter the whisky.

Mr. Monte Bayley proposed "Mr. George Graves and Sir Thomas Dewar," which was drunk heartily with musical honours; Mr. C. Douglas Stuart toasted Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Thornton, the matron and superintendent, and stated how well they had conducted the institution during their first year. Mr. and Mrs. Thornton briefly responded. Father Cogan proposed the health of Mr. Cragg, the chairman, and in a very interesting speech gave anecdotes from the Front in France, where he had been for three years. Mr. Cragg replied. Mr. Monte Bayley proposed "The Secretary, Mr. Douglas Stuart," who replied; and Miss Lottie Albert spoke as to how pleased she was to be with them all again.

"OLD KING COLE" AT DUNDEE.

A bumper opening house on Tuesday night gave an enthusiastic welcome to the pantomime, "Old King Cole," produced by Mr. John J. Lloyd, under the personal direction of Mr. Geo. T. Minshull. The theme enables the scenic artist and costumier to revel in a lavish display of scenery and dresses. The fourteen scenes in which the pantomime is played comprise some excellent stage pictures, particularly notable being King Cole's Castle, a fine, bold piece of stagecraft, and The Betrothal of Tom and the Princess is a magnificently arranged scene.

Miss Mabel Medrow, the principal boy, made a vivacious Tom. She has a lithe, handsome figure, and is well equipped with a pleasing singing voice. She rendered her numbers excellently. Miss Blanche Pearl, a dainty lady, who sings and acts prettily, made a delightful Princess. Mr. Fred Colley was a capital exponent of the merry old soul of the title-part. He scored in all his songs, and also in his comedy business. The King's Consort was successfully depicted by that clever comedian, Mr. Ivan Berlyn, who kept the house in continuous roars of laughter. Mr. Johnny Cullen was Peter the Piper, and Mr. Arthur Carthy Simple Simon, and their clean, healthy fooling was hugely enjoyed and appreciated. Miss Dorothy Cullen as the King's Valet, and Miss Mabel Scott as the Princess's Maid, were excellent; while Dick and May were well played by Miss Anna Shials and Miss Jane Forrester. Mr. L. Wakeman looked every inch the Eastern magician, Abdul. Wee Alfie scored in a special part. The Russell troupe of dancers, along with Miss Jane Forrester, principal dancer, appeared in several exceptionally clever dancing specialities. Mr. H. E. Loseby conducted an augmented orchestra in his usual brilliant style.

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(1918),

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WINDSOR NEW THEATRE ROYAL.

Messrs. C. A. Stephenson and A. M. Morris are presenting the pantomime of "Cinderella" here this week. The book is on the usual lines, and is a merry production, robust fun and catchy songs receiving rounds of applause from the audience. Miss Vivian Carter is the principal girl, and makes a dainty Cinderella. Her songs are capitally rendered, and her dances well worth watching. Miss Lily Desmond is a dashing Prince Brilliant. She has a charm of manner, a pleasing voice, and a ready adaptability. Miss Maisie Terriss is particularly deserving of commendation as Dandini; a dainty Fairy Crystal is that of Miss Gladys Henderson; and Miss Dolly Linden makes the most of her opportunities as Rosey Romps. Mr. Carter Livesey as Capers (the Baron's page) works hard and with complete success. Mr. H. Lewis and Miss Mary Sirron as the Ugly Sisters, Clorinda and Elizabeth, provide a feast of fun, and greatly amuse the house. Mr. H. Soar makes the character of Baron Balmy a droll and pleasing study; and Mr. Henry Trevelyan does effective work as Harold (a flunkey). Clever dancing is introduced by the Empire Troupe of dancers, and a speciality dance by Dainty Doris is worthy of mention. The Fairy Coach is drawn by a pair of Shetland ponies, and is much to the taste of the young folk; and a well-balanced chorus render adequate support.

Miss Beta Tudor, a favourite Bath contralto, who is in France with Miss Lena Ashwell's concert party, had the enviable experience of attending the midnight Mass at Notre Dame on Christmas Eve.

TO MISS IVY SHILLING.

We cheer your exit, "Nineteen seventeen,"
Since, for your favours, few are much beholden;
But you bequeathed me, ere you left the scene,
One memory golden!

Queen of the Dance! In Empire show sublime,
Thrilling the house, one glorious night I found you!
The dazzling sunlight of your own bright clime
Seemed to surround you!

I'd met your picture on a magazine;
I'd thought no vision could be more entrancing!—
Exquisite Ivy, I had never seen
That nymph when dancing!

Once, of revue, I much deplored the reign,
And from the stage I much desired to chase it;
My views have altered! Long may it remain,
If *you* but grace it!

FRED. FLEXMORE.

At the invitation of the management of the New Theatre, Oxford, and the members of the "Peter Pan" company, some 700 wounded soldiers and about 130 Poor Law school children were generously entertained at a special performance on New Year's Eve. Subscriptions amounting to £6 11s., which Miss Eva Embury (Peter Pan) supplemented with £2, had been collected from the audience on Boxing Night to provide the men with cigarettes, &c. The members of the theatre staff and the "Peter Pan" company all gave their services.

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A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement." Mr. WILL EVANS, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it." Mr. PHIL RAY.—"Not being fortunate enough to receive a sample of your excellent Grease Paints, I purchased same for myself, and after a lengthy trial I have no hesitation in saying that, from my point of view, it is immeasurably superior to any foreign makes."

THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

Edited by ALFRED BARNARD.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1918.

THE CANTEEN BOARD ENTERTAINMENTS.

IN our leading article in our issue of December 26 we dealt with a communication from a correspondent who alleged that chorus girls in pantomime in a big military centre were paid only £1 per week, and that women for single turns were paid from 30s. to £2 10s. per week to work three halls a night, and that the artistes were driven round in open motor-cars, which had caused them to catch cold. A member of the Navy and Army Canteen Board has very kindly placed at our disposal all information connected with the running of the theatres controlled by them, from which it is clear that all persons engaged are paid reasonable and proper salaries, and that no adult in any of the theatrical companies controlled by the Board is paid less than £3 per week, which, by the way, is the minimum at which the Actors' Association will book engagements for its members. The Navy and Army Canteen Board have quite recently enlarged the scope of their operations by taking over certain *Military* theatres and cinemas in the South of England, and to the best of their knowledge and belief all the actors and actresses engaged in their companies are more than eager to work under the existing conditions. In addition to the attraction afforded them by the happy conditions under which they work, which includes excellent housing accommodation and protection to such an extent that the most sceptical person could find nothing at which to cavil, the performers experience the added pleasure of bringing to camp life good cheer and brightness, which means so much to our soldiers, and at the same time playing to large and most appreciative soldier houses.

As regards the military area referred to by our correspondent, none of the performers and entertainments are engaged or conducted by the Navy and Army Canteen Board, but are provided and controlled by a Military Command managed by a committee composed largely of staff officers, including several General officers. The system under which these entertainments are run was established many years ago, and so far as salaries are concerned are largely of an amateurish nature, and although a single turn may be paid only £2 10s. per week, the figure is not the result of a hard bargain, but exactly what the artiste asks to be paid. Neither are artistes driven about in cold weather in open cars, although in an isolated case due to breakdown an open taxi-cab may have carried an artiste suitably attired for the purpose. Indeed, in many cases well-known performers travel to this centre to perform, and refuse to take any payment beyond their out-of-pocket expenses. This military command does not, therefore, beat artistes down in price nor affect their prestige in the open market, since the artistes themselves gladly offer to go for the fee paid, mainly because they are doing a national work, and they, in fact, ask for future bookings. As regards the pantomime chorus paid £1 per week, these, as we pointed out, are purely "local talent," who, in most cases, offer to "walk on" for nothing; but the officer organising the show, rightly believing that if these people were not paid they would attend irregularly, finds it better to bind them down with a contract at the nominal fee named, it being obvious that the pantomime and the soldier would suffer considerably if the producers were uncertain of the attendance of their chorus. We have seen many letters from artistes addressed to the organisers of entertainments in the military centre dealt with from which it is clear that the conditions under which they work and have worked on the occasions of their visits for years past give, and continue to give, them every satisfaction.

Our correspondent, clearly himself a performer, had seen things as he imagined them to be rather than as they are. The truth is that the entertainments provided for the troops at prices of 2d., 4d., and 6d. have a far-reaching effect in improving our armies, whilst at the same time affording performers an opportunity of doing a bit of national work without suffering in pocket. And now that further light is thrown on the picture, it is to be regretted if the publication of the previous article has given pain or annoyance to any artistes, the Navy and Army Canteen Board, or the organisers of the shows in the military centre dealt with, who one and all are doing their utmost for the soldiers' good.

In conclusion, we are glad to be able to give wide publicity to the fact that any profits made by the Navy and Army Canteen Board Entertainments are handed over to the War Office for distribution by the Army Council for the benefit of soldiers generally, and that as regards the entertainments given in the military centre the question of profits has not arisen, and in fact, to keep these entertainments going for the amusement and good of the soldiers a subsidy is provided out of the Navy and Army Canteen Board funds.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Ethel's "O! O! Omar!" song is such a success that she may shortly follow it up with a "Ha! Ha! Hafiz!" ditty.

* * *

They wanted a lady diver for a "Seven Days' Leave" tour. A beautiful young thing applied for the part. "Can you swim?" they asked. "Not a stroke," she answered. "But if you're a lady diver——" they expostulated. "Oh, there's some mistake," she smiled, sweetly. "I understood what you wanted was a Lady Godiva!"

* * *

"Do you like Fielding?" asked the girl who wanted to see the "Tom Jones" film. "Yes," replied he; "but I like batting better."

* * *

"The cinema industry," says Hall Caine, "has become one of the fourth or fifth largest industries in the world." I *should* like a complete list of the other fourth or fifth largest ones.

* * *

Congratulations to Basil Sydney on finding Doris Keane.

* * *

No need for chimes. Doris is a wedding belle in herself.

* * *

Peace with Honour is being preceded by War with Honours.

Sir Henry Tozer's halls will now give knightly performances.

* * *

The compliment paid to Sir W. F. Jury is one of the few things he can't screen.

* * *

As a tribute to Hope, oughtn't there to be a revival of "Sir Anthony"?

* * *

Mr. Galsworthy says "literature is its own reward." And now managers will be clamouring to present his plays free of fee!

* * *

"Grants for Kitchens," announces a headline. Good old Fred!

* * *

"Out of Hell" is a timely title. We are out of everything these days.

* * *

Queer that this should be described as "A Play for Women." Look out for "The Immoralities of Mayfair," a Play for Children.

* * *

How economical they are at the Garrick! The seal on the "Saving Grace" poster, with its monogram "C. H.," will do for Charlie Hawtrey or Haddon Chambers.

* * *

The St. James's poster, on the other hand, is rather out of date. What a mockery, when butchers won't let you have any, to be confronted on your way home by a picture of a beef-eater!

TOUCHSTONE.

SOME STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE.

Inspired and Revised by the late J. CHURTON COLLINS, M.A.

No. 6 (Concluding Article).—THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE PLAYS.

THREE factors assist us in determining the dates at which Shakespeare wrote his plays: Firstly, external evidence; secondly, evidence that is partly internal and partly external; thirdly, internal evidence. By this means the dates assigned, in some cases only approximate, are within measurable distance of accuracy.

The external evidence consists of references by his contemporaries to his works and entries of publication in the Stationers' Register when they were published, the latter, at any rate, fixing an upward limit. For example, Dr. Simon Forman, in his diary, records the fact that he saw "Macbeth" acted for the first time on April 20, 1610. On May 15, 1611, is an entry in the same diary showing that he witnessed a performance of "The Winter's Tale." In both these cases Dr. Forman gives the outlines of the plots, consequently there is no doubt that he plays referred to were those of the same name written by Shakespeare. Corroborating and supplementing this evidence is a list of Shakespeare's plays published by Meres in 1598. Again, on reading the works of contemporary poets we find passages which may be references to Shakespeare's plays. For example, in Weever's "Mirror of Martyrs" (1601) occur the following lines, which were possibly suggested by "Julius Cæsar":

> The many-headed multitude were drawne
> By Brutus' speech, that Cæsar was ambitious;
> When eloquent Mark Antonie had showne
> His virtues, who but Brutus then was vicious?

The objection to this kind of evidence is that possibly two selected passages may by chance resemble each other although being in fact absolutely independent; further, a particular idea or its expression may have been copied by Shakespeare from another writer. The last part of the wholly external evidence consists of records of certain companies of actors playing Shakespeare's plays on specified dates.

The second class of evidence is of two kinds. Firstly, allusions in the plays to historical events of known dates, and secondly, references to, or ideas copied from, books, the dates of publication of which we are able to ascertain. This evidence fixes the downward limit. Thus in "As You Like It," Act iii., Scene 5.

> Dead shepherd now I find thy saw of might
> "Who ever loved that loved not at first sight?"

The last line of this couplet is taken from Marlowe's "Hero and Leander" (1598). The entry in the Stationers' Register fixes the upward limit at 1600, so that we conclude that "As You Like It" was written between 1598 and 1600.

The internal evidence is not easily defined. Passing from one play to another we are conscious of a change in change in style and diction. Comparing "Love's Labours Lost," with "Cymbeline," we observe that the former bears marks of the undeveloped writer, whilst the latter takes a full and profound view of human life. In the early part of Shakespeare's career it was customary to punctuate the end of each line in verse. In "Love's Labours Lost" and "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" we see this system of punctuation, whilst in the works assigned to later dates the lines run on from one to the other. Additional evidence is offered by the frequent occurrence of rhymed verse in the early plays and its almost total absence from some of the later plays.

Shakespeare's life work may be with fair accuracy divided as follows:—

Period of Apprenticeship	1588-1592 or 3
Second Period	1592 or 3-1603
Third Period	1603-1609 or 10
Fourth Period	1610-1611 or 12

The plays written in the period of apprenticeship are:—The first, second, and third parts of "Henry VI.," "The Comedy of Errors," "Titus and Andronicus," "Love's Labours Lost," and possibly, in an earlier form, "Richard III."

It is probable that "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" and "Romeo and Juliet" form the connecting link between the first and second periods, the latter of which gave us nearly all the comedies and historical plays except the three parts of "Henry VI." and "Herny VIII." In the third period was produced only tragedies, whilst the fourth is that of Shakespeare's perfected genius, in which he wrote "Winter's Tale," "Cymbeline" and "The Tempest."

From 1592 to 1603 Shakespeare first used the stage as a pulpit, combining instruction with amusement for his audience. The characteristics which mark his apprenticeship and the inexperience of the youthful poet vanish before approaching manhood. He draws with the greatest skill the characters of the plays of this, the second period, still, however, as throughout his works, upholding the aristocracy for admiration and his country for glorification and exhibiting no sympathy with democracy.

"As You Like It" well illustrates the second period of Shakespeare's genius, which are: light comedy with an undercurrent of seriousness; finely drawn charcters; contrast between virtue and vice; subtle plots; the very best composition in prose, blank verse, and rhyme; a clearly defined moral, well covered by either humorous or dramatic vein. The plot of "As You Like It" is one of deep construction built upon the line "Sweet are the uses of adversity." It ranks among the best of Shakespeare's comedies, giving us Touchstone and Rosalind. The Banished Duke is contrasted with Frederick, and the composition throughout is of Shakespeare's best.

"Macbeth" is typical of the work of the third period—that of dark and gloomy tragedy; and were it not for the character of Banquo we might have deduced from this play the idea that the poet had lost all faith in human nature.

In the pages of "Winter's Tale" "The Tempest," and "Cymbeline," three dramas of reconcillation and forgiveness, Shakespeare delivered his final philosophy of life.

In the "Winter's Tale" Hermione forgives her husband, and all those things which promised to end in disaster terminate happily.

In "The Tempest," Prospero, the usurped Duke of Milan, finally gets Antonio, Alonso, and Ferdinand into his power, but Prospero forgives them.

> Though with their high wrongs I am struck to the quick,
> Yet, with my nobler reason, 'gainst my fury
> Do I take part. The rarer action is
> In virtue than in vengeance; they being penitent,
> The sole drift of my purpose doth extend
> Not a frown further . . .

Beyond forgiving his enemies, Prospero gives Ferdinand Miranda's hand in marriage.

In this play Shakespeare takes his serenest view of human life, for in it he gives us the last chapter of his comprehensive view.

In "Cymbeline," Posthumus and Imogen are reunited, and to the King are restored his sons. There is complete reconciliation, for even dishonest Iachimo repents and is forgiven.

The irony of these plays is in marked contrast to that in the tragedies, where we see evil evolve from that which appears good. We remember in "Macbeth" that Duncan is murdered in the Castle of which he has said:

> This castle hath a pleasant seat; the air
> Nimbly and sweetly recommends itself
> Unto our gentle senses.

There is none of this terrible irony in Shakespeare's last work, where the theme is the evolution of good out of evil.

We must note in conclusion the return in Shakespeare's fourth period to the idyllic element. The scenes are set in the open air: there is a beautiful atmosphere of freedom. "Winter's Tale" is enacted round the home of a shepherd; Prospero lives in his island cave.

In "Cymbeline" is the only sentence to be found in Shakespeare suggesting equality between all men. In Act iv., Scene 1, Arviragus says to Imogen:—

> Brother, stay here.
> Are we not brothers?

Imogen replies:—

> So man and man should be,
> But clay and clay differs in dignity,
> Whose dust is both alike.

OLD SADLER'S WELLS.

SOME PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS.

I HAVE known the famous old playhouse ever since, as a youth, I came from the country to London town and took up my abode in its northern district. For over twelve years I passed the theatre twice every day, with the exception of Saturdays and Sundays, on my way to and from the office. I had read accounts of the glorious reign of Samuel Phelps at "the Wells," and of his revival, between 1844 and 1862, of nearly the whole of Shakespeare's plays, so that when I allowed an active imagination free scope I saw before me the vision of a crowded audience intent upon the play, and the tall, commanding figure of Phelps as Hamlet, Othello, Macbeth or Shylock, and I seemed to be listening to the sonorous tones of that fine vibrant voice as the actor declaimed the familiar lines of the Bard.

It was only a few days ago that I met, quite by accident, and, curiously enough, within a stone's throw of the house in Canonbury Square, Islington, in which Phelps lived for many years, Mr. Isaac Seaman, the doyen of the London theatrical critics, and as hale and hearty at 83 as many men who are thirty years younger. I happened to mention Sadler's Wells, and Mr. Seaman told me he was one of the few living newspaper men who had actually witnessed some of Phelps' most important Shakespearean productions. Yes, I was talking to the very man who could impart a sense of reality to the visions of my youthful days, and re-people that deserted stage from the memories of his theatrical experiences of over sixty years ago.

I passed the old theatre one day this week. It presented a desolate, forlorn appearance. At one end of the building was an ugly, big board which announced to passers-by that Sadler's Wells was for sale, and would be suitable for a warehouse. The walls were for the most part covered with torn, weather-discoloured posters of announcements and scenes from the film stories which had formed the last attractions at the one-time home of the drama. It struck me that the ghost of Phelps might well haunt the ancient empty building, just as in the days of its prosperity the hazy spirit form of Hamlet's murdered sire used so often to be seen in the dim recesses of the stage, as in a deep bass was rolled out the thrilling lines beginning, "I am thy father's ghost."

Mr. H. Barton Barker, in his work on "The London Stage," gives an admirable summary of the origin and history of Sadler's Wells, devoting several pages to an account of Phelps' successful revival of the legitimate drama. There are also references to the wonderful triumph achieved by Grimaldi, "the Garrick of pantomime," and the many famous actors and actresses associated at one time or another with the theatre, the list of whose names alone would take up more space than I can afford in a brief article. A writer in one of the London papers the other day, commenting on the sale of "the Wells," stated it was there that T. P. Cooke ran the old melodrama, "Black-Eyed Susan." This is a mistake. It was at the Surrey Theatre that Elliston (that odd character in theatrical history) produced Douglas Jerrold's nautical drama, and engaged Cooke to play the part of William at the then enormous salary of £60 a week, the first performance taking place on Jan. 26, 1829. About this time, or a little before, "we find," writes Mr. Barton Baker, "terrific melodramas with astounding titles, and ballets and pantomimes succeed each other with persistent regularity." The programmes were quaintly worded. A specimen one is given in "Hone's Every Day Book." The date is 1825, and as a theatrical curiosity an extract is worth quoting. "A most whimsical burletta, which sends people home perfectly exhausted from uninterrupted risibility, called 'The Lawyer, the Jew, and the Yorkshireman'; with (by request of 75 distinguished families and a party of 5) that never to be sufficiently praised pantomime called 'Magic in Two Colours; or, Fairy Blue and Fairy Red, or, Harlequin and the Marble Rock.'" Had there been Press agents a century ago the ingenious author of this bill would no doubt have been a much-valued one. On the same comprehensive programme wine is quoted at three shillings and sixpence a full quart, and it concludes with "N.B.—A full moon during the week"—surely something in the nature of a lunar phenomenon, and the announcement possibly having some connection with the cheap wine, which might also have been "heady."

(To be continued.)

BRISTOL AND WAR CHARITIES.

WHAT THE PROFESSION HAS DONE IN THE WESTERN CITY.

BRISTOL so far has "done its bit" in regard to war charity work in every direction, and the local theatres and halls have certainly kept their end up, though, singularly, the local managers have not kept a detailed record of all that has been done in this respect. Like others associated with war charities that came into existence early in the war, they had an idea that the war was to be a short, if severe, one, and results have not been tabulated fully. The unwisdom of that has certainly been demonstrated. At the Prince's Theatre, thanks to the generosity of Mrs. J. Macready Chute and her co-directors, there has not been a matinée scarcely held since wounded men commenced returning to England at which there has not been a large party present of men in hospital blue, and that has meant not only free seats, but tea and cigarettes have also been served gratis. When stars have been appearing at the Prince's they have also arranged to visit and give entertainments at the War Hospitals in the Bristol district, which number nearly twenty. The big charity week at the Prince's was last November, when the jubilee birthday performance — Mr. Martin Harvey and his company in "Rosemary" — realised £281 for King George's Sailors' Fund. That week a lecture by Mr. Martin Harvey on "Shakespeare generally and under shell-fire," at the Theatre, also realised £40 for the Bristol Branch of the British Red Cross Society, and a collection by Mrs. Martin Harvey for Red Cross Transport also brought in £66. An appeal for walking-sticks and magazines for the troops produced an altogether unexpectedly generous harvest. Another big success was a Saturday afternoon performance of an amateur revue, "Oh, I See" (otherwise O.I.C.—officer-in-command), by the men of the A.S.C. Motor Transport at Avonmouth, styled the Caterpillar Concert Party. This produced just under £200 for the Bristol Inquiry Bureau, and £178 came from a special "Cinderella" pantomime matinée for the Lord Kitchener Fund. Collections have also been made for the "Half Back," "Evening Times and Echo" Fund for sending gifts of sporting kit and musical instruments to men on active service—a matinée pantomime performance was also kindly offered last year, but it could not be accepted owing to the lack of a suitable date—Bristol Day Nursing Fund, and the Lord Mayor's Hospital Fund, while there has been a "Weekly Dispatch" pantomime matinée for children each year, and the theatre has been let at a nominal fee for performances annually by the Bristol Branch Dramatic Society of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association on behalf of war charities.

Mr. S. Fortescue Harrison, the present popular manager of Bristol Hippodrome, and his predecessor, have never tired of well-doing in the interests of war charities, the result being that considerably over £2,000 has been raised from Mr. Oswald Stoll's comfortable theatre at St. Augustine's Parade. Over £600 was raised in one week for the War Seal Foundation, when the special pleader was Mr. Julian Henry. The top amount for a single performance was £335 for a matinée for Lord Kitchener's Fund, and £300 was also reached by Mme. Clara Butt's special concert for the local Inquiry Bureau. A Sunday evening concert with Miss Marie Hall, the well-known violinist, as the chief attraction, brought in over £100 for a local fund for entertaining soldiers, and a Good Friday concert realised £200 for the Lord Mayor of Bristol's Fund, the programme being mainly sustained by the Cecilian Choral Society (Messrs. J. S. Fry and Sons). Two other sums of £100 were also raised for the same Fund, and other smaller amounts have been £35 for the Rev. Waldron's matinée; £60 by Mr. John Foster Fraser's lecture for Russian War Fund; £40 from a Red Cross matinée; and £50 for Mrs. Ames' War Fund. There have been profitable sales of postcards, Miss Gertie Gitana one week harvesting £27 for the War Seal Foundation, while one week enough picture postcards of the wounded soldiers matinée were sold to entertain a party of 400 guests at the Bristol Art Gallery. Last year as many as 5,000 wounded soldiers were entertained at the Hippodrome, apart from the special matinée which has been a feature each year since the outbreak of war.

At the Empire and Hippodrome in Old Market Street the audiences have shown themselves particularly generous towards collections, and there have been many, the Lord Mayor's Hospital Fund benefiting to the extent of over £50 each time, while St. John's Ambulance had £51 in 1916 and £50 in 1917. The Bristol Day Nursery had a useful collection of £54, and another of a smaller amount. One of the greatest successes was a matinée on behalf of the Sailors' and Soldiers' Families Association, which, with subscriptions obtained by Mr. W. H. Williams, the hon. secretary, brought in just over £170. There was a matinée for blinded soldiers that provided £58, and two boxing matches that were financially successful were held at the Empire last year for war funds—one being for the provision of a sportsman's ambulance at the Front and one for comforts for the men of a Gloucestershire regiment. Mr. Sid Macaire, the resident manager, has at all times shown himself most approachable in aid of any war charities.

The Theatre Royal has been modest in its war work, but when under the management of Mr. Fred Carpenter it linked up with the Prince's Theatre in promoting a Pantomime Artistes v. Bristol City Past and Present football carnival and street parade, which realised just over £150 for the "Half Back" Fund.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Walter de Frece for West Newington.
Some time ago Walter de Frece told me that he was going to stand as Parliamentary candidate for Brixton, where so many variety folk do congregate. Anon I heard that Fred Russell, the V.A.F. chairman, would very likely stand for that division.

Now Walter has resolved to put up for West Newington, having, he tells me, been invited to stand and unanimously adopted by the West Newington Conservative Association.

George Robey's Kindly Thought.
George Robey has forwarded to the V.A.B.F., through Mr. Elvin, a donation of ten guineas sent him by a friend, who desires to be known as "Carthusian," to which he has added a cheque for a similar amount from himself. The committee are very gratified at this evidence of interest from Mr. Robey, and wish to record their thanks to him and his "pal."

A Logan Sketch.
I have just heard that Stanley Logan will, at the end of the run of "Round the Map" at the Alhambra, take round a new sketch which sounds very quaint and humorous.

Marie and Revue.
A well-known theatrical and variety chronicler asked, a day or two ago, "Will Marie Lloyd really go into revue?" As a matter of fact, the Merry Marie really went into what was certainly a "revue" some years ago. It was called "The A.B.C. Girl."

What is more, there is at the moment of writing an idea of reviving that tea-shop revue. And I should not be altogether surprised if La Lloyd were "approached" to resume her former character, namely, Flossie the Frivolous!

Max and Marie.
With regard to another Marie—the more serious one, surnamed Löhr—she has, I learn, arranged for the music for her Globe production of Somerset Maugham's new play, "Love in a Cottage," to be composed by that youthful but celebrated variety impresario, Max Darewski.

The Arbitrator's Wife Honoured.
Hearty congratulations to Lady Askwith, who figures in yesterday's new Honours List as a "Commander," in recognition of her work on the Ladies' Auxiliary Committee (Munitions Section), Y.M.C.A. Lady Askwith is the wife of Sir George R. Askwith, who (among other splendid duties) "arbitrated" in the music hall strike.

"A Cushy Job."
Capt. E. C. Baker's sketch, "A Cushy Job"—his first offence, as he terms it—which has aroused some curiosity in the profession, was produced at the Hippodrome, Sheffield, on Monday, and was an instantaneous and great success. A slide announced that the captain was in the house, and at the close of the production, which ran about 25 minutes, the popular officer, who is well known in variety circles, went on to the stage to be very heartily greeted.

"A Cushy Job" has one mission, and that is to amuse. "This is no time for sad stuff," says the author. "We have all got to laugh and look happy, even if it covers up tears."

The sketch takes a novel line, for it portrays a series of interruptions in a recruiting office, where a captain finds life anything but a cushy job. These events are based on the experiences of Capt. Baker.

Mark Sheridan Indisposed.
I regret to hear that Mr. Mark Sheridan was unable to appear at the Hippodrome, Brighton, on Monday, owing to indisposition. Here's wishing "one of the bhoys" a speedy recovery. Another popular comedian, Mr. Malcolm Scott, deputised for Mr. Sheridan on Monday.

"Hotch Potch."
Another new de Courville revue is, I hear, to be seen on Monday, when "Hotch Potch" will be produced at the Penge Empire. In the cast are popular Nora Delany and that sure fun-maker, Fred Kitchen.

Leo and the Lady.
Mr. Leo Dryden is at the South London this week, and the audiences at this house join as heartily as ever in the choruses of his well-known songs. Reference was made last week in "My Music Hall Tour" to Mr. Dryden's aptness in singling out a singer with a particularly penetrating voice and inviting him or her—it is generally a her—to sing the chorus lines alone.

Leo is fond of telling this story. One evening, in his usual polite manner, he said, "Now, please, will that lady with the fine voice sing the words of the chorus alone?" Whereupon there came the reply in a stentorian voice from the back of the house, "It ain't no blooming lady, Leo—it's my old woman!"

For Limbless Soldiers and Sailors.
Mr. Oswald Stoll, whose kind-heartedness is proverbial, is organising a grand naval charity matinée at the Chiswick Empire on the 22nd inst. in aid of Queen Mary's Hospital for limbless soldiers and sailors. A success is assured.

A Busy Week.
True to their old traditions of providing the greatest fun to the greatest number, Hengler's Circus, Glasgow, gave nineteen performances during the New Year week, four each on New Year's Day and the day after, and three on several other days. The artistes must have heaved a sigh of relief when they reached the calm of a Scotch Sabbath.

The Martinis and Pianist.
This clever trio have, I hear, a new act in preparation, which will be first seen in town at the Surrey the second week in February. We are promised a sensational dance, "The Dance Decoy," which has been the rage of two continents. The trio were one of the hits of the bill at the Shoreditch Empire last week, and are now in the provinces for five weeks.

Death of an Old Pro.
I regret to announce the death of Edward Towers, aged 76, who died on Thursday night in the Benevolent Institution, Twickenham. The deceased was the son of Johnson Towers, who was the lessee of the Victoria Theatre, Waterloo-road. He played clown for many years, and was the author of several dramas played at the Pavilion Theatre, Whitechapel. He was also proprietor of Towers's Pantomime Troupe, and performed all over the world. The funeral took place on Tuesday at the Twickenham New Cemetery, the interment being in the grave of the Benevolent Fund and Institution.

Stars and the Tank Bank.
Stage favourites were very active last week in helping the Tank Bank at Birmingham on its record-breaking career. Billy Merson made what was described as his maiden speech from the top of the tank; his audience, which filled Victoria-square, giving him a rare reception. Appealing to local patriotism, Billy said that though not born in Birmingham, he spent his boyhood here, and had the honour of the city at heart.

With him appeared bonnie Clarice Mayne, who with various other players helped to keep the huge crowd in good humour, and also did their bit in taking up bonds.

When the bank closed on Saturday night the Lord Mayor, after announcing the figures to the multitude which thronged the streets, proceeded to the Theatre Royal and imparted the news there. The announcement that Birmingham had distanced all rivals by raising between six and seven millions sterling produced a scene of tremendous enthusiasm.

For War Seal Fund.
The Five Sisters are continuing their good work on behalf of the War Seal Fund. A week or so since they sold their cards at Ebbw Vale, by kind permission of the general manager, Mr. Solomon; and were able to send up over £8. Up to date they have collected £229. The Sisters were last week at Dewsbury, where they wore all new dresses and played a new programme. Their novel and artistic musical act is meeting with great success everywhere.

Entertaining the Wounded.
George Robey, Nelson Keys, R. G. Knowles and Coram were among the performers at the entertainment given by the Aldwych Club at the Connaught Rooms to 500 wounded soldiers on New Year's Day. Sir Hedley le Bas presided, and the members of the Club acted as stewards, the "boys" greatly enjoying the high tea and the variety programme.

The Variety Knight.
Sir Henry Tozer was among the guests at the Sylvan Debating Club fiftieth anniversary dinner, held on Monday night at

[*Photo Hana.*
SIR HENRY TOZER.

the Connaught Rooms, when Lord Northcliffe gave one of the most interesting addresses ever listened to, dealing with America and the war.

Sir Henry Tozer, with whom I had a chat in the course of the evening, whilst agreeing that the old form of variety bill, such as used to be so popular at the Tivoli, was a thing relegated to the past, said that all civilisation was in such a state of upheaval at the present time that it was quite impossible to forecast the form of variety entertainment that would be most popular in the future.

Mr. Guy E. Dunning.
Mr. Guy E. Dunning, who has been appointed manager of the Empire, Wolverhampton, comes direct from the Empire, Nottingham, where he was engaged in a similar capacity. At the latter town he was also at one time general manager for Cinevars, Ltd., who control a circuit of halls. He was for some years secretary and general manager for the Pickard Circuit at Glasgow.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.
The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild wish to thank Miss Maude Mortimer for a New Year's donation of £1 1s.; Miss Florence Yayman £1 3s., obtained by making dolls representing her impersonations, selling same, and donating the proceeds to the above; Mrs. Nance Pounds, a donation of 10s.; the Sisters Macarte, for a collection of 12s. 6d., being 5s. from Mr. Jack Lane, 5s. from Mr. Fred Evans (Pimple), and 2s. 6d. from Mr. Harry Thorpe; and Miss Bessie Clifford for a useful parcel of clothing.

The annual guinea subscription has been received from Mrs. Gintaro and Mrs. Robert Macdonald. Mrs. Lockhart has been re-elected a committee member.

The Guild are still in urgent need of a warm coat and a pair of shoes or slippers, size 5, for an invalid who has to be taken out in a bath chair.

American Artistes and Brinsworth.
Following are the contributions received for the American Vaudeville Artistes' Fund for Brinsworth, the appeal originated by Mooney and Holbein and Jesse Jacobsen and the Two Rascals:—Fred Duprez, £5; Lee White and C. Smith, £5; Rascals and Jacobson, £5; R. G. Knowles, £5; Mooney and Holbein, £5; Lew Kelly, £5; Robert Reilly, £3 3s. 6d.; Manny and Roberts, £2 2s.; Four Swifts, £2 2s.; Two Bobs, £2 2s.; Van Hoven, £2 2s.; James Carew, £2 2s.; Will H. Fox, £2 2s.; Torino, £2 2s.; Ford and Urma, £2 2s.; Waters and Morris, £2 2s.; Myron Gilday, £2 2s.; Alfredo, £2; Anna Dorothy, £2; Great Wieland, £ 1s.; Bart Doyle, £1 1s.; Mike Conway, £1 1s.; Barton and Ashley, £1 1s.; Dave Carter, £1 1s.; Bill Manning, £1 1s.; Harry Radford, £1 1s.; Pete Weiser, £1 1s.; Chas. Cohan, £1 1s.; Tucker, £1 1s.; Harry Taft, £1 1s.; W. Ellwanger, £1 1s.; Carl Hertz, £1 1s.; Chas. Warren and Rachel Lowe, £1 1s.; Billy Ritchie, £1 1s.; Claude Golden, £1 1s.; Daly and Healy, £1; Frank Whitman, £1; Roxy La Rocca, £1; Cornalla and Eddie, £1.

Talbot O'Farrell.
Talbot O'Farrell, the popular Irish entertainer, after seven weeks' illness, reappeared in town at Shepherd's Bush last week, and quickly proved that he was in fine form. On Friday evening Talbot introduced a new number, "That's What I Call Home," which caught on immediately. After a brief provincial tour Talbot will be seen in town at the end of next month at the Victoria Palace.

Nottingham Hippodrome Entertains Children.
At the Nottingham Hippodrome on Wednesday the third party of this year's programme of Christmas and New Year's dinners, a scheme inaugurated by the Nottingham Hippodrome management four years ago, was held, when 500 of Nottingham's poorest children sat down to dinner on the stage, and were afterwards joined in the auditorium by over 2,000 others, mostly the children of soldiers on active service. An excellent variety programme was contributed by Miss Francesca Smith, Bob Hartley, Tiny Nancy Radford, Alf Clegg, and Baby Ewing.

Mr. Harry Lyons, the manager of the Hippodrome, president of the Dinners Fund, was present, and before the little guests left each was presented with apples, provided by Miss Edna Latonne, Messrs. Dove and Dove, the ladies of the "Dick Whittington" company's chorus, and the Hippodrome directorate.

Over 2,000 children have this year been entertained to dinner, and many more provided with an afternoon's entertainment.

Mr. Courtney Crocker.
Mr. Courtney Crocker has recently been appointed acting manager of the Olympia, Cardiff, which has been run so successfully by Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd., for some time past with pictures, coupled with variety turns. Mr. Crocker has just completed two and a half years' engagement with the National Electric Theatres, Ltd., previous to which he had control of various halls in London, Norwich, and Torquay.

Saester's Virtuoso Ensemble.
At the Hammersmith Palace on Monday next and during the week Saester's Virtuoso Ensemble will make its first appearance in public. It consists of four first-rate artistes (violin, 'cello, piano, and vocal). A noteworthy feature of the act will be the cross-bowing by the violinist and 'cellist on each other's instruments. Mr. Maurice Saester, the violinist, who will also give an impersonation on the 'cello of the late Mr. Augustus Van Biene in the "Broken Melody," has just been discharged from the Army.

Presentation to Mr. W. S. Pearce.
At the Palace Theatre, on Wednesday evening, Mr. W. S. Pearce, the lessee of the theatre, was presented by the Bath branch of the National Union of Railwaymen with an attaché case and an address enclosed in an oak frame as a token of esteem and sincere regard, and in recognition of many valued services rendered to the widows, orphans, and railwaymen of the above branch. Mr. Pearce suitably responded.

The Wounded at Bath.
A number of artistes appearing at the Palace Theatre, with the ready co-operation of Mr. W. S. Pearce, who was unfortunately unable to accompany the party owing to a severe cold, gave the wounded at the Bath War Hospital an admirable and much appreciated entertainment. Nelson Hardy, the soldier ventriloquist, was in great favour with the men, who packed the Y.M.C.A. hut from wall to wall. Marjorie Vernon, A.R.C.M., and Doyle Crossley, the ballad-mongers, gave refined and pleasing musical and vocal excerpts, while Dan Filmer, the comedian, was very popular.

On Friday Nelson Hardy and the Ballad-mongers paid a second visit to the War Hospital to assist in a concert given in Ward No. 4, where there are all cot cases. Mr. Hardy also appeared at the Scouts' concert at the Pump-Room on Friday night for a charitable cause.

Cigarettes for the Somersets.
During the week a collection was made at the Palace Theatre, Bath, for cigarettes and tobacco for the Somersets by Mr. Nelson Hardy and Miss Bertha May, and the handsome sum of £53 18s. 6d. was realised. Well done, Bath.

The Brave Boys and the "Bing Boys."
Seven hundred wounded soldiers were entertained to a special matinée of "The Bing Boys" at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, on Saturday afternoon. The "boys" greatly enjoyed the performance, and gave hearty cheers for the company and promoters at the close of the show.

A Soldier Song-writer.
"A Moonland Elf," now being sung with great success by Miss Mabelle George, the charming Alice, at the Dalston Theatre pantomime, is entirely the work of Pte. Kingsford W. Shortland, of the West Yorks. Pte. Shortland was severely gassed at Nieuport, and is now recuperating at the Ripon rest camp. He is busy, as far as his state of health will permit, organising musical entertainments in the camp, and his efforts are meeting with more than gratifying results.

Matinée at Wood Green.
By the kindness of Mr. Oswald Stoll, the Wood Green Empire was, on Thursday last, the venue of a matinée in aid of the funds of the Wood Green branch of the National Association of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers. The entertainment was largely contributed by friends and relatives of the soldiers themselves, and it was good to hear the shouts of enthusiastic applause which followed the efforts of the performers. After the overture (a pot-pourri of popular airs well played by Mr. Forbes Russell's orchestra), Betty and Bee, two charming girls, gave selections on the banjo and concertina, and Donald and Carson in their smart Scotch jokes and cross-talk, aided by harmonious singing and the bagpipes, were accorded an ovation.

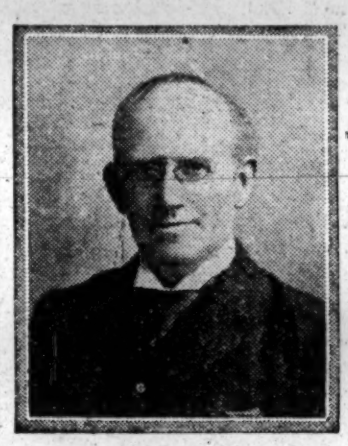
Mr. Will Collins, a clever whistler, gave some realistic imitations. Miss Jeanne De Claire gave a capital Cockney "slavey" skit; while Miss Gwendolen Nidd sang very sweetly "Until" and "Somewhere a Voice is Calling." Others on the programme were Adam Tomlinson, the Creighton-CaHow Trio, Billie Westwood, Little Mollie Watkins, and Jack and Evelyn, the latter popular pair being unable to appear. Mr. David James, the courteous manager, was present to look after the comfort of all. During the afternoon a vote of thanks to Mr. Stoll, the management, orchestra, and theatre staff was carried with acclamation.

THE PILGRIM.

DEATH OF W. J. ASHCROFT.

The passing of Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, "the solid man," on Wednesday last, at Belfast, was not altogether unexpected, as for some years he had been in failing health. Born on June 25, 1845, at Pawtucket, U.S.A., Mr. Ashcroft had a remarkable stage career. His parents were Irish, and they emigrated to America in 1840. When only four years of age, "Billy," as he was then familiarly called, exhibited great promise, and on examination days at school he was always selected to play comedy parts in the theatricals. A born showman, at the age of eleven he made use of his father's cellar for various entertainments. In 1861 Mr. Corey, a music seller and publisher, of Providence, organised a band of minstrels, which was Mr. Ashcroft's first legitimate engagement. The tour lasted six months, the company travelling through the Eastern States of America. Afterwards he travelled with different dramatic, variety, and minstrel troupes on the same circuit. In 1865 he was engaged for the season at Seaver's Opera House, Williamsburgh, and while there was associated with all the best minstrels and variety performers of the day.

Later he was at the Bowery Theatre, New York, with a partner named Sands, with



[*Photo by Charles and Russell, Belfast.*
THE LATE W. J. ASHCROFT.
"The Solid Man."

whom, in 1863, he set sail for California, and opened on April 14 in that city. In 1870, after travelling several mining districts, he returned to New York, opening at the Theatre Comique, where he was advertised as California's favourite versatile comedian. He then returned to his home in Providence, where he received a big complimentary benefit. In December, 1870, he opened at the Globe Theatre, Broadway, New York, and in 1871 he played engagements at Tony Pastor's Opera House, Theatre Comique, and the Globe, and was one of the company at the opening of the Union Square Theatre in 1871. He sailed for England, and opened at the Oxford Music Hall, London, Sept. 1, 1872, and afterwards visited Liverpool, Manchester, Hull, Sheffield, Birmingham, and returning to America he again appeared in all the principal cities in U.S.A. He returned to England June, 1875, opening at the Cambridge and Metropolitan, and also visited the provinces, where the name of Ashcroft was always a draw.

"The Solid Man" was originally the title of a topical song, written by Mr. John Poole, New York, in 1870, and sung by Tony Pastor, and four years later Mr. Harrigan, comedian and author, wrote the words to the old Irish air. Mr. Ashcroft arranged the introduction and dance music with his idea of the character in 1875. When at Liverpool, in 1876, he made a feature of advertising "The Solid Man," so much so that he was eventually better known as "The Solid Man" than by Ashcroft.

In July, 1879, Mr. Ashcroft purchased Mr. Dan Lowry's interest in the Alhambra, Belfast, the re-opening night being a very interesting event. While controlling this theatre he also continued his professional engagements for a few years. From 1891 to 1900 he devoted his chief attention to his theatre at Belfast, and after relinquishing his proprietorship made several successful tours.

The remains were laid to rest in the City Cemetery, Belfast, on Friday morning. At 11 o'clock, the Rev. Dr. Murphy, chaplain to the Actors' Church Union, conducted a service in St. George's Church, Belfast, which was crowded with life-long friends of Mr. Ashcroft and many members of the theatrical and vaudeville profession. The coffin, which rested on a catafalque in the centre aisle, and was of solid oak with brass mountings, bore the inscription:

WILLIAM JOHN ASHCROFT.
Died 2nd January, 1918.

There were several wreaths, including a lovely wreath of lilies from Mrs. John J. Stamford and family; an exquisite Irish harp in evergreens and lilies from Mr. and Mrs. Desmond Crean; and immortelles from the directorate, manager, and staff of the Belfast Alhambra. The chief mourner was Mr. Albert A. Brooke, brother-in-law, and amongst those who attended the funeral were Mr. Fred W. Warden, Mr. James M. McCann, Mr. Will White, Mr. W. Gibson Bradley, Mr. James Burt, Mr. George Stamford (whose late father, Mr. John J. Stamford, wrote so many popular songs for deceased), Mr. David Motherwell, Mr. S. P. Swanton, Mr. George Dobler, Mr. Robert Russell, Mr. Jas. J. Worth, Mr. W. L. Richards, Mr. Norman Richards, Mr. Malachi Burns, Mr. R. Leitch, Mr. Desmond Crean, Mr. W. J. Henry, Mr. Frank Moreland, Lieut. O'Hara, Mr. Carl Hooper, Mr. Fred Stamford, &c.

The Rev. Dr. Murphy conducted the interment service at the graveside

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

A MEDICAL BOARD AT HAMMERSMITH AND AN ORANGE ORGY AT WALHAM GREEN.

I am happy to be able this week to give the British music hall public a most eulogistic testimonial for honesty. Really, I have seen a sight which, as a sheer exhibition of trustworthiness, it would be hard to beat.

AT THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.

I don't know whether you happen to have heard the news, but, in case you haven't, I may tell you that there is a temporary food shortage on. Butter, margarine, sugar, meat, and "a host of others too numerous to mention" (as they say in postage-stamp dealers' advertisements), are about as scarce as q's without u's (which you may read in a double sense); eggs cost lord-knows-what apiece, and oranges fetch heaven-knows-how-much. Oranges, indeed, are now such a luxury that I'm told lovely ladies and gentlemen in faultless attire even condescend to peel them with their perfectly manicured fingers at the Ritz. And yet at the Granville, Walham Green, on Monday night, I was amazed to find Griff, the white-faced soap-bubble-blower, chucking them among the audience and asking the audience to chuck them back so that he could catch them on a two-pronged fork which he held between his teeth.

It was rather a blow to me to find that I am not such a good man as my fellows. I had already laid my plans. If only I could catch an orange, I would make a straight bolt for such-and-such an exit, dash down such-and-such a street, hail a No. such-and-such bus, climb on top, and—suck. Then, to my amazement, I found that not one member of the audience seemed to have even been struck by such a scheme. Without exception, they buzzed those oranges back at Griff, and generally their aim was so crooked that one sighed for a Food Controller. But, when they buzzed straight, Griff (who had already done some capital ventriloquising) caught them on his fork or (intentionally) met them full with the top of his head—and the roars of merriment that resounded through Walham Green suggested to me that those oranges weren't eaten in the gallery because the gods knew that they could laugh and grow fat instead—which is how to beat the German submarines.

After Griff, the best things I saw at the Granville were the Four Tommies, who get a lot of atmosphere into their trench-concert; Zenora, the child's conception of Australia incarnate, for he spends all his time walking about upside-down on his hands—and, what is still more remarkable, on the tips of his fingers; and Fred Rex and company (a very capable company, too), in an uproarious sketch entitled "Money and Misery"—the story of a loony who hates the sight of money and makes fortunes against his will (vide "Brewster's Millions" for the germ). Comedy from Dan Graham. Songs from Victoria Lyons, Wyn Wayne, and Alice Tremayne. Films by Pathé. Furniture by—but that would be advertising.

AT THE HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

I seem to dog Wilkie Bard and the Hanlon-Charles Troupe from hall to hall, these days. It's quite unintentional—I simply strike them by chance. And a lucky chance, too, as Wilkie Bard and the Hanlon-Charles Troupe will doubtless, with great justice, declare!

I have just seen them again at the Hammersmith Palace, not to mention—which reminds me, have you noticed how, when a writer says "not to mention," he promptly goes on and mentions? Well, I saw Maidie Scott, singing "I Had to Chalk a Cross upon the Slate" and "The Youngest in the Family," and she was at her very best. There is only one Maidie! Another first-rate turn was the vaudeville revue of Jack and Evelyn. Jack's Medical Board stuff went down like hot cakes, and his impersonation of the chairman of the Board playing patience, as it were, with the unhappy recruits' papers is one of the most amusing and artistic little documents of observation I've seen on the halls for a long time. Jack and Evelyn are really a duo de luxe, and they pack more good fun into five minutes than most duos could pack into half-an-hour.

The Paget Trio, with their concertinas, score well, but I think they would be well advised to end up with their popular songamagoria instead of the too-well-worn Mascagni intermezzo. Their climax should come at the finish. Boy Paget of the pink cheeks works a very telling smile on the gallery, and the two girl Pagets are as pretty as they make them. Vivian Foster's vicar stories—straight from the victory—I mean the recorage (to pinch one of his gags) are beautifully told, and though a certain repetition here and there could be spared, the voice, and especially the facial expression, are "it." Then there is Zetta Mor, who sings Hawaii, Irish, knut, and all styles of song so well that she is my "selection" this week for the revue managers. "In Somerset" was well taken up by the audience—but I confess those lines,

"... that quaint old room,
Where ivy clings and the roses bloom,"

always conjure up in my mind a picture of a room that is quaint, to say the least of it. Lastly, Wyn and Ivy keep things humming with their act, singing and dancing and fooling around to very good effect.

RE WINS.

Talking of whom, have you noticed what a lot of "Wins" (most of them are winners) there are on the variety stage just now? On Monday night I came across Win surnamed Wayne and Wyn of Wyn and Ivy. Then there's Wish Wynne. And Win and Windle. This last-named Win, by the way, has just written to me to mention that he was the originator of the famous Gordon Highlander quip, for perpetrating which I launched into another artiste a week or two back. All honour to him!

EXTRA TURN.

The Terriers.
At the meeting on Sunday last Will Cody officiated as W.T., Capt. de Villiers as V.T., Walter Norman G.C., A. C. Astor W.I., Bob Olrac W.D., L. Loupe Y.B., and Fred Day as Organist.

A hearty welcome was extended to John Olrac, Bob Olrac, L. Loupe, and Will Cody upon their reappearance in the Kennel.

Application for membership has been received from Eddie Martin.

One of the recipients of the Mons 1914 Star is Terrier Syd Baker, who served in the Army Remounts Corps in the early days of the war.

The election of officers for January resulted as follows:—W.T.; Capt. de Villiers; V.T., Walter Norman; Organist, Fred Day.

Subscriptions for 1918 are now due.

Letters have been received from Billy Kloof, Will Cummin.

All members of the Grand Council are asked to attend at 6.30 sharp on Sunday evening next. Business: To consider a special claim for sick benefit.

Miss Pauline Allen.
This eminent soprano has just concluded a successful run with the Martini Trio, and is opening as a single turn at Finsbury Park Empire next week with Horatio Nicholls's "Love, Come From Your Hiding-place" and other new numbers from this popular composer's pen.

Bert Gilbert,
with "Where's the Chicken?" scored a great success at the Empire, Wolverhampton, last week. Full houses nightly were the rule, and at both performances on Saturday "House Full" was the legend. "Where's the Chicken?" is one of the funniest musical farces touring, whilst the chorus, vocally, is far above the average.

Mr. Gordon P. Firman writes from the London office of Fuller's Vaudeville Circuit, 166-170, Wardour-street, W.:—"As there appears to be some misunderstanding regarding the booking of artistes for Fuller's Australasian Circuit, I should be obliged if you would make it known through the medium of your journal that all business is done direct with this office, either with artistes themselves or through the medium of variety and theatrical agencies."

Freddy Regent, the dame speciality comedian, principal comedian in Mr. Arthur Rosebery's "Aladdin" pantomime, is making a big hit with "Come to my Garden of Parsnips," which he is singing by kind permission of Mr. Wilkie Bard. In this number his partner, Miss Kathleen Tayaton, appears in the front of the house as a lady farm-hand. The number is loudly applauded at each performance.

Bristol Hippodrome.
Owing to restricted tram traffic and dark nights, the Bristol Hippodrome management is contemplating bringing forward both houses each night by ten minutes, so that the curtain will go up on the first house at half-past six.

Ronez Quartette.
This fine combination have been doing remarkably well in the provinces during the past seven weeks, and we now hear they are booked up for this year, which is abundant proof of the popularity of this act, which was started less than three months ago.

Your Clothes will be
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THE ERA ANNUAL

50th (Jubilee) Year of Publication,
WILL CONTAIN
THE FILM MARKINGS
OF ALL
FILMS (EXCLUSIVES) ISSUED FROM June 1st to December 31, 1917,

Owing to paper shortage the Edition will be limited; therefore, to secure a copy, please fill up the following Form and post to The Manager, The Era, 35, Wellington Street, London, W.C. 2. at once.

Please supply One Copy of THE ERA ANNUAL, 1918, as soon as published, for which I enclose P.O. value 1/8.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

FILMLAND GOSSIP

Messrs. Gaumont will be prepared to give them very shortly. The same remarks apply to the Metro-Drew and Christie Comedies.

Mr. G. F. Sexton.

The closing of the West End Cinema on Sunday last in compliance with the King's request to keep the day as a National Day of Prayer will not deprive the Queen Mary Auxiliary Hospital of its usual donation from this source. Mr. G. F. Sexton states that he feels it would be unfair that such an institution should suffer through his obedience to this sacred national effort, and therefore the hospital will receive its charity cheque as usual. Bravo!

Lieut. Barker's Muse.

Lieut. Eric Barker, who joined up a month after the outbreak of hostilities, has not allowed his pen to be subservient entirely to the sword. He has turned out several songs, one called "When Father Found a Fly on Baby's Back," being so cleverly written that it has been accepted by Mr. Tom Clare, who is himself composing the music. The rights of the song have been acquied by Mr. Herman Darewski. Another of Lieut. Barker's efforts is "When God Gives Me Peace and You" ("The Roses Will Grow in My Garden"), which is being taken up by several singers on the halls.

Lieut. Barker, it will be remembered, was chiefly instrumental in getting together the All British Film League, which most of the leading English manufacturers joined. The Army call of several important members put an end temporarily to the activities of the League; but after the war——!

Passing Show Comedies.

The first act of ten Passing Show Comedies which Pioneer are issuing are certainly worthy of the high anticipations which had been formed about them.

The style of subject is in every case extravagantly humorous, and the effects are obtained by the use of a whimsical idea carefully elaborated into a whirlwind succession of breathless incidents, effect piled upon effect and climax upon climax, until we are caught up into a veritable maelstrom of comic catastrophe and Homeric laughter.

Bolton's Mutual.

Bolton's Mutual Films, Ltd., announce a trade show on Monday, Jan. 14, at 11 a.m., at the Super Cinema, Charing Cross-road, of "The Girl Who Couldn't Grow Up," featuring Margarita Fischer.

"The Girl Who Couldn't Grow Up" consists of five reels of sparkling comedy, in which Margarita surpasses her previous triumphs in "Miss Jackie of the Navy."

Granger's Exclusives.

Mr. Arthur Backner is more than satisfied with the bookings obtained on the various films controlled by this firm. We hear that Mr. Granger has just secured a film which he believes will be thought by the trade to excel all the others. It is something quite out of the ordinary. The firm have secured the United Kingdom rights, and exhibitors should watch for the announcement.

Miss Rose Lee Ivy, under the control of Mr. A. G. Granger, was such an enormous success at Cranston's Picture House, Glasgow, that the directors retained her for a further week. This is the second time that North of England exhibitors have booked this lady for one week, and retained her for a fortnight. We further hear that Mr. Granger's date-book for Miss Lee Ivy is fast filling up, and exhibitors would be well advised to get in touch with him at Stoke-on-Trent without delay.

Fox.

Fox's tell us that we are going to have a joyous surprise when viewing the new Virginia Pearson subject, "All for a Husband," at the Super Cinema, Cambridge Circus, on Wednesday, Jan. 16. They won't tell us any more than this, but when they speak of it they just chuckle and say: "Just wait and see that sweetest of sweet girls, Virginia Pearson, and what she can do when she's let loose." They promise that even in these days of picture house trials and tribulations, the viewing of this film will make the most hardened exhibitor glad that he is in "The Trade!"

International Exclusives.

International Exclusives, Ltd., inform us that the trade show of their first 1918 release, "The Greatest Wish in the World," founded on E. Temple Thurston's novel of that name, and produced under the direction of Maurice Elvey, will be screened to the trade at the West End Cinema, Coventry-street, W., on Tuesday, Feb. 5, at 11.15 a.m. The subject is a delightful one, and the cast includes that fine character actor, Bransby Williams, Jean Alwyn, Ada King, Gwen Herbert, Odette Goimbault, Edward Combermere, Douglas Munroe, Edward Arundel, and William Corri.

Pathé.

A gorgeous success is the best term to apply to Pathé's wonderful new twenty-reel serial, "The Fatal Ring," which was shown to the trade in the Roof Garden Theatre, Wardour-street, last Tuesday and Wednesday.

Pearl White in this serial is, as usual, an amazing revelation, and what she can't do to thrill her audiences would be difficult to say.

By the way, we ought to mention that in connection with "The Fatal Ring" Pathé Frères are presenting exhibitors with a large and exceedingly unique parcel of free publicity.

Phillips.

At the special Phillips Trade Show on Friday next at the Marble Arch Pavilion, in addition to "The Man Without a Country," the Phillips Film Co.'s first "super-feature," the company may also screen the first of the new series of "Cub" Comedies, with Geo. Ovey starred. These attractive single-reelers would have been screened to exhibitors long before this, but for the disconcerting effect of the war on Transatlantic communications.

Triangle.

"The Millionaire Vagrant," the Triangle drama to be shown to the trade next Friday, is an exposé of the corruption prevalent in many American law courts. Charles Ray is the star. He plays a young millionaire, who wagers that he can earn, and live on, a dollar a day. He learns for himself what it means to be "up against it" in the slums, but he comes out a regular fellow in the end, and wins through.

Vitagraph.

The Vitagraph Co., Ltd., will hold a special trade show on Wednesday next at the West End Cinema, when they will screen a splendid super-production called "The Greel Mystery," featuring Earle Williams, at 11.30, also a two-reel O. Henry. The next trade show will be Wednesday, Jan. 23, and every Wednesday after.

East India Dock Road.

"Womanhood" has been secured for the second time by Mr. Brooks for the Poplar Pavilion, and will be shown throughout the week. On Monday next "The Fall of a Nation" should attract large audiences.

Poplar.

Mr. Victor Maurice is submitting at the Grand Palace on Thursday an excellent programme, with "Princess of Patches" as the star picture.

Fulham Palace.

The management of the Fulham Palace, North End-road, Walham Green, W., presented throughout last week the International Exclusive, "Daddy." Miss Mavis rendered the song at intervals to delighted audiences. Other popular pictures were "Gloria's Romance," "The Voice on the Wire," and Ham and Bud. The principal features for this week are "God's Man" and "Where Are My Children?"

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for rebuilding. Best prices given for all makes.

ARC LAMPS, RESISTANCES,
and accessories bought.

Send us all your spare or unwanted cine. stuff, we will let you have our valuation immediately on receipt, and, if satisfactory to you, will remit cash or cheque.

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Manufacturing Electrical Engineers,
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LAMBETH, LONDON, S.E. 11.

Famous New "Ideal" Drama.

"WHOSO FINDETH A WIFE."
5 Parts. Released May 20th. Starring JEAN SOTHERN.
A Reply to HALL CAINE'S "THE WOMAN THOU GAVEST ME."

"TOM JONES."
6 Parts. Released May 13th. Fielding's Celebrated Novel. Starring LANGHORNE BURTON.

"AULD ROBIN GRAY,"
The Best Song-Picture. Starring R. A. ROBERTS, LANGHORNE BURTON and MISS JUNE ("Little June").

The "IDEAL" Film Renting Co., Ltd.
76-78, WARDOUR STREET, W. 1.

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DON'T FAIL to ATTEND

GRANGER'S TRADE SHOWS.

THEY WILL BE HELD AT

BRISTOL

ON
Friday, Jan. 11, at
The Triangle Hall, Bristol,
at **11.0 A.M.,** when
the greatest of all "Butterfly" Productions,
"MAN AND BEAST," will be shown.

AND ON
Tuesday, Jan. 15, at
Livermore's Palace, Bristol,
at **11.0 A.M.,** when
"THE GIFT GIRL" will be shown,
featuring Louise Lovely and Rupert Julian.

Our representative, Mr. HENRY ELLIS, will be in attendance, and will be delighted to meet old friends—and make new ones.

ALSO AT

LIVERPOOL

ON
Wednesday, Jan. 16, at
The City Picture House, Lime St.,
at **11.0 A.M.,** when
the Original "Butterfly" Detective Drama,
"THE REED CASE," will be shown.
featuring Louise Lovely and Allen Holubar.

AND ON
Friday, Jan. 18, at
The City Picture House,
at **11.0 A.M.,** when
the fascinating "Butterfly" Eastern Photo Play,
"THE GIFT GIRL," will be shown,
featuring Louise Lovely and Rupert Julian.

Our Agent for Liverpool and East Lancashire, Mr. R. E. ASKEW, will be in attendance, and especially requests that you will bring your date books with you. He feels sure you will need them.

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LUNCHEON TO SIR WILLIAM JURY.

The trade luncheon which is being arranged in order to celebrate the knighthood conferred upon Sir William F. Jury, promises to be a great success, the proposal meeting with a hearty response from all quarters. The Editor of "The Kinematograph Weekly" has been asked to act as hon. secretary, and has already received a number of offers of assistance from all parts of the country. A tentative committee has been formed of Messrs. A. E. Newbould, E. H. Montagu, C. M. Hepworth, R. A. Pitcairn, P. Kimberley, W. Barker, Matt. Raymond, F. R. Goodwin, S. Harris, G. Cabourn, and T. Sapt, any decision come to by them being subject to confirmation by the Cinematograph Trade Council, under whose auspices the luncheon is being arranged.

It has been decided to hold the luncheon at the Criterion Restaurant at 10 o'clock on Wednesday, Jan. 16. Mr. A. E. Newbould, president of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, will be in the chair, and it is understood that a Cabinet Minister, who is already closely identified with the industry, will be present, and will be asked to propose the toast of the trade.

The following gentlemen were co-opted to assist in the distribution of tickets in the provinces:—Messrs. Davis (Wales), J. P. Moore (Birmingham), H. Clegg (Manchester), F. Weisker (Liverpool), A. Cunningham (Leeds), W. Morrison (Newcastle), and J. J. Bennell (Glasgow). Mr. Thomas Sapt, Editor of "The Kinematograph Weekly," was elected hon. secretary, and Messrs. S. Harris, Editor of "The Cinema," and G. Cabourn, Editor of "The Bioscope," joint treasurers.

Tickets will be 10s. 6d. each, and can be obtained from the hon. secretary or treasurers, the provincial members of the committee; Mr. F. Fowell, secretary of the Cinematograph Trade Council; or Messrs. E. H. Montagu, F. R. Goodwin, and Brooke Wilkinson. The number of tickets available will be strictly limited, and so far as possible those present will be restricted to members of the trade.

"DARBY AND JOAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

SIR,—There is no copyright in titles, but the announcement that my distinguished confrère, Mr. Hall Caine, has written and arranged to have produced a film play with the above revered title necessitates my putting on record the fact that, in 1914, I completed and arranged for the production of a photo-play entitled "Darby and Joan."

Actual production was suspended on account of the outbreak of war, but only "suspended."—Yours faithfully,

LAURENCE COWEN.

10, Staple Inn, Holborn, London, W.C.
Jan. 4, 1918.

"SANDS OF SACRIFICE."

A STORY OF PASSION AND AVARICE, IN WHICH THE LOVE OF A GOOD WOMAN TRIUMPHS OVER SELFISHNESS AND PREJUDICE.

Production ..... Amer. Film Co., Inc.
Distributors ..... Bolton's Mutual Films, Ltd.
Star ..... William Russell
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Acts

Based on a David and Jonathan friendship and an enthralling romance, this film, screened to the trade at the Super Cinema on Monday morning, proved as dramatic as its name indicates. The two friends are "Big Bill" Darcy, a devil-may-care athlete, and his consumptive chum, Sammy Goode, who are everything to each other until Darcy meets charming Nora Farnes. Nora's one aim in life is revenge upon Enoch Foyle, an unscrupulous company promoter, who swindled her out of her mother's fortune. She pits all her woman's wit against him to gain restitution, and in one or two exciting combats would have been worsted but for the timely help of Darcy, whom she eventually marries. Then her efforts to fascinate Foyle arouse her husband's jealousy, and the latter leaves her to join his dying friend. There is an exciting scene in the desert, where they struggle for life through a heavy drought, and always Sammy Goode urges Darcy to return to his wife, of whose innocence he is assured. He returns to his wife just as she has gained a confession from Foyle, and a happy reunion follows. The story is interesting and the acting generally good, the part of Darcy being excellently played by William Russell.

Richmond.

Royalty Kinema.—Mr. Clive is presenting a comprehensive bill to-morrow, including "The Ragged Messenger," "Captain Bairnsfather's Cartoons," Ham and Bud in an Exclusive comedy, and "Yellowstone Park." On Monday next and throughout the week "The Whip" is announced as the star feature.

For the Talbot Kinema Theatre Mr. John Morris has secured "The American Heiress" for the latter half of the week, and on Monday next "Forbidden Paths" is the outstanding feature. On Jan. 17 "What Money Can't Buy" is the principal attraction.

New Scheme for English Pictures.

We hear that a wealthy group of capitalists in the North of England is engaged in forming a company with a big capital for the production of British pictures on a large scale.

In the South another group, which already possesses facilities for the making of pictures, has put in hand a scheme which, when completed, will provide a regular output of first-class pictures.

The cinema is now recognised by capitalists as offering excellent opportunities for profit and for national service.

For Film Trade Shows and Markings see page 10.

VARIETY CARDS.

ALBERT WHELAN
THE PALLADIUM.

ARTHUR WOODVILLE
HIPPODROME, WIGAN.

PETER META
DONALD and CARSON
Jan. 7, EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE. Jan. 14, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
P.A., 76, THE LAWNS, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

HUGH E. WRIGHT
"STARKEY" PETER PAN.
NEW THEATRE, W.C.

RENE RALPH
HIPPODROME, WOOLWICH.
As "Prince" in "Cinderella."
Second Season as Principal Boy with Mr. GULLIVER.

CISSIE LUPINO
THE CHARMING DANCER.
ON TOUR.
All Coms., c/o "The Era."

BILLY CHURCHILL
AS ABANAZAR.
The Hit of the Show.
BOROUGH THEATRE, WALLSEND.

NIBLO & DORIS
Starring in the Provinces till Feb., 1918.
Address: Principal Agents.

STILL THE BEST IN HER LINE.
JEN LATONA
AT THE PIANO.
Manager, GEO. BARCLAY.

HARRY GOULD
COMEDIAN.
GRAND, MANSFIELD ("Where's the Chicken").
All Coms., V.A.F., 18, Charing Cross Road, W.C.2.

GUS GARRICK
THE COMMERCIAL COMIC.
Address, 98, Charing Cross Road, or 'Phone, City 2590.

HORACE JONES
Starring in Principal Comedy Part in Harry Day's Revue "BUTTERCUPS."
ON TOUR.

THE DUGARDES
Presenting their Original and Refined Musical and Dancing Speciality.
VACANT, Jan. 21.
Coms., 19, Albion Street, New Brighton, Cheshire.

ROY DOVE
"THAT GARRULOUS JUGGLER."
ON TOUR.

IRENE and BABY ROSIE ANDREWS
The Smallest Child Artistes in Vaudeville.
Specially re-engaged, and now appearing in
"THE HAPPY FAMILY"
at the
STRAND THEATRE, W.
An Emphatic Success. Vide "The Era."
All coms. Mr. J. MATHESON JONES, 160, Great Portland Street, W.

WOLSEY CARIELLO
LEADING LADY
MARK SHERIDAN'S TRAVESTY,
"GAY PAREE."
P.A.—154, KENNINGTON ROAD, S.E. 11.

Miss Louie Freear wishes, through our columns, to thank Mr. J. B. Mulholland, of the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, for a comfortable engagement, but owing to loss of voice and a sick husband, she regrets that she was unable to continue in the part. Miss Freear adds her wishes for a happy New Year to all friends and admirers.

Managers of theatres and cinemas in search of a good orchestra would do well to apply to Mr. Maurice Piena, orchestra provider, Birchington Road, Kilburn, who has made a big extension of his business during the past year, and has also established a department for hotels and restaurants, which has become very popular. Mr. Piena is always willing to help managers and musicians with advice and help.

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

Letters continue to pour in reporting the big success of the Lawrence Wright numbers in pantomime, the three outstanding successes being "Love, Come From Your Hiding-place," "Just Keep Marching Along," and "When God Gave You to Me." Miss Mabel Martin, the Fairy Queen at the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, writes that the last-mentioned is a huge success there, and the papers make a special note of this. Miss Bessie Leigh, who is appearing at the Empire Theatre, Kingston, this week in Brydon Phillipe's "Aladdin," is also singing this number, and the local papers say that she deserves special mention for her rendering of it.

Mme. Kate Flinn's clever little pupil, Gladys Cowell, has made a great success in Manchester as the Fairy Queen in "Pinkie and the Fairies."

"Out of Hell" was read for the first time on a Sunday, was put into rehearsal at once, and was ready for production on Saturday last. The Ambassadors is to be credited with one of the speediest productions on record.

"The Babes in the Wood and Bold Robin Hood," the children's pantomime, is meeting with great success at the Lyric, Hammersmith. Mr. E. J. Alfnutt is the producer of this pretty "annual," which has many attractive scenes, and some funny ones which make an irresistible appeal to the youngsters.

At the sale of the music publising business of Messrs. Evans & Co., of 24, Castle-street, Berners-street, the popular Irish song and waltz, "Eileen Alannah," was knocked down for £1,051. It had been purchased by Messrs. Evans at the same rooms in 1899 for £200. "Lead, Kindly Light," by Ciro Pinsuti, fetched £235, and the "Old Countree," by the same composer, £237 10s.

Nora de Courtnay is only eleven years old, yet this is her second year as premier danseuse in the pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Brighton. Meanwhile she has toured the South Coast piers, and has already danced in several productions, once with Alexis Kostoff, has appeared at the London Palace, the Botanical Gardens, Norfolk House, and at many distinguished functions.

VARIETY CARDS.

These cards are inserted at 36/- for thirteen issues (small space) of "The Era."

IMPORTANT TO ARTISTES.

Additions and Corrections to these Cards must reach us not later than Tuesday, 1 p.m.

THE MUSICAL
ELLIOTT SAVONAS
In "THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS."
Business only through W. BENTLEY or G. BARCLAY, or direct to H. ELLIOTT.
This Week, EMPIRE, SWANSEA. Next, HIPPO., BRISTOL.

THE FIVE SISTERS
Real Sisters. Introducing Pianos, Mandolines, Singing, Violin & Acting.
Own Beautiful Setting carried. Different to all other Musical Acts.
This Week, EMPIRE, DEWSBURY. Next, VACANT, wire DEWSBURY.
Perm. Address, 2, INGLEWOOD MANSIONS, WEST END LANE, N.W.

FLORRIE FORDE
ON TOUR.

"DIVINA"
Bronze Medallist, I.L.A.M., Elocution. The Miniature Pavlova.
Jan 14, COLLINS'S.
All coms., MACCLARE, 39, NORTH END ROAD, GOLDERS GREEN, N.W.2.

MAY MOORE DUPREZ
The Original Jolly Dutch Girl. "Cute and sassy."
ON TOUR. All coms. to Business Manager, BERTRAM C. GRANT,
7, Exeter Mansions, 105, Shaftesbury Avenue, W. 1.

KATIE HUGHES
Playing Dandini in Chas. Gulliver's production of "Cinderella,"
WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.
Sole Agents, F. and H. REEVES.

WILL VAN ALLEN
COMEDIAN WITH SOME MUSIC.
This Week, L.T.V.

McALLISTER & SMITH
Jan. 7, RESTING. Jan. 14, HIPPO., HAMILTON.
WANTED, Feb. 4 and 11 (between BLYTHE and OLDHAM).
All Coms. direct or any first-class Agent.

THE CARINA TRIO
IN THEIR ARTISTIC MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT.
PALACE, BLACKBURN.
P.A., 68, Crescent Lane, Clapham Park, S.W.4.

FRANK POWELL
CHARACTER PATTER COMEDIAN.
Always working. ON TOUR.
Agent, WALTER BENTLEY

Mr. HYMACK
"'AT BOGEY VILLA' is as perplexing as ever. There is no need to speculate how the changes of costume are worked. It is sufficient to remark that he has no competitors in his line."—BIRMINGHAM DISPATCH, July 10.
Jan. 7, KING'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.

BRUCE GREEN
THE DAME OF DAMES.
Pantomime Dame at ALHAMBRA, GLASGOW.

FLORENCE HELM
PRINCIPAL BOY.
HOWARD & WYNDHAM.
THEATRE ROYAL, NOTTINGHAM.

ERA ANNUAL
Fiftieth (Jubilee) Year of Publication. Among the Special Features is the following:—
The Single Turn's Return. By MARIE LLOYD.
Book your Advertising Space at once before it is too late.

MRS. TOM FOY
PRESENTS THE FARCICAL SKETCH,
"HUNTING TROUBLE,"
With the Original Company, including the **FAMOUS ACTOR DONKEY.**
For dates and terms apply
MANAGER, 116A, SMEDLEY ROAD, MANCHESTER.

ANNA MARTENS
THE ENTENTE CORDIALE COMEDIENNE IN HER NEW ACT.
ON TOUR.

The Celebrated RONEZ QUARTETTE
THE GREATEST SUCCESS EVER KNOWN IN MUSICAL ACTS.
After 7 Weeks on the Halls almost booked up for 1918.
Jan. 7, Hippo., Rotherham. Jan. 23, Pal, Southampton Only few vacancies.
Jan. 14, Empire Pal., Dewsbury. Feb. 4, Empire, Nottingham. All Coms. direct or
Jan. 21, Empire, Birmingham. Principal Agents.
Wanted, Feb. 11 (between Nottingham and Northampton).

FATTY ROMA
Playing DAME in
CHAS. GULLIVER'S "MOTHER GOOSE."
L.T.V. Circuit.

DAISY TAYLOR
SCOTLAND'S FOREMOST COMEDIENNE.
Agent:—GEO. BARCLAY.

PAUL TEDDIE
WITT and BUTT
THE ELITE ENTERTAINERS.
This Week, HOLBORN and CAMBERWELL.

THE REAL REASON
TOM GOTT
THAT YORKSHIRE COMEDIAN,
IS VACANT FOR FEB. 4, 11, 18.
The panto at Theatre Royal, Nottingham, this year has been a record success for the past 50 years, but owing to prior bookings, must close down Feb. 2.
Therefore TOM would like to hear from you re above dates.

WILKIE BARD
This Week, PALACE, HAMMERSMITH.

Miss HETTY KING
Wishes to notify all that her sole business arrangements are in the hands of Mr. HARRY DAY, of Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, to whom all communications must be addressed.

RAPIDLY RISING TO FAME.
MAY SHERRARD
THE NEW-STYLE COMEDIENNE.
PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRADFORD, for run of Pantomime.
Coms., N.V.A., 18, CHARING CROSS ROAD.

ALFREDO
This, EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Next, EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

HOPE CHARTERIS
SOPRANO.
SYNDICATE HALLS.
All coms., W. H. PRICE, ASHTON'S ROYAL AGENCY, 33, OLD BOND STREET, W.

FORD and TRULY
(CHUMS IN VAUDEVILLE).
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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1918.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for "Zig-Zag."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ford and Truly, Alfredo, Elsie Roby, Pauline Allen, Will Hay, Jerry & Co.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Denzilloe Trio, Chas. R. Whittle, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Professor Earle, Anna Hana, Daunton-Shaw Troupe.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Those Four Kids, George French, and company as booked.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.
Picture entertainments.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Phil Ray, Nellie Wigley, 3 Jees, Marie Kay, Pierce and Roslyn.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Alex Prince, Vera Rooney, Harry Bedford, Spalding and Vanguard, Charley Meteor Trio, Alexandra Opera Singers.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.
Picture entertainments.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Trixie Kay, Doris O'Brien.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Emilie Hayes, Sam Stern, The Doves, Shawlene, Cornalla and Eddie.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Lawrence Wright Ensemble, Cooper & Lait, Ena Dayne, Bert Terrell, Four Clovelly Girls.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Three O'Hara Sisters, W. V. Robinson, May Starr, The Mountfords, Tom Wong Troupe, Hedley and Windish.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Alice Lakin, Finlay Dunn, McNaughtons, Brinn, Billy Simpson, Gomez Trio.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
La Razcka, Gem and Bubbles, Griffiths and Clare.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
10 Loonies, Sam Barton, Syd Sydney, Alf. P. James & Co., Billy Wells and Eclair Twins.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Baisden, Arthur Cooke, Arthur Woodville, Daly and Healy.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.15 p.m. for:—
Jan Latona, Tommies' Lonely Lassies, Jackson and Jolly, Ethel Fenton, Pasquali Bros., Chas. Kasrac and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

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Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Seven Days' Leave."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ike and Will Scott's "Babes in the Wood."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Mother Hubbard."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"A Trip to Tynemouth."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE HALL, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

HER MAJESTY'S T., WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

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Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

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Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fire-proofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (*a*) West End, (*b*) Suburban, (*c*) Large, and (*d*) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinées are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields,** at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (*a*) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (*b*) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.

(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.

(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager,** and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

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CALLS FOR JANUARY 14, 1918.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Violet Vanbrugh & Co., in "The Woman on the Window Sill," Mark Hambourg, Murphy and Jack, Lydia Kyasht, "A Double Escape," Dan Rolyat, Flying Banvards, Versatile 3, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)

Pictures and Varieties.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Revue as booked.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Rosie Lloyd, Frank and Vesta, Fredk. Kerr & Co., Cruikshank, Bi-Bo-Bi, Ritchie Troupe, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Bonnudo, Vera Caine, Roxy La Rocca, Donald and Carson, George d'Albert. Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"La Poupée."

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
George Prince, Ina Hill, Campbell and Brady, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Manuel Vega, Bioscope, &c.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
David Poole, The Kavanaghs, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Victor and Leonard, Winifred Ward, Belle Davis' Cracker Jacks, Tucker, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Barts Trio, The Gothams, Flora Cromer, Wieland, Lole Conn, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
May Hopkins, Miss Cashmore, Bioscope.
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NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

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BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. London Coliseum, London Opera House, and Manchester Hippodrome require 20 parts, including 3 first violins, extra 'cello and bass, and extra part for harp if not scored for.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, Jan. 14, 1918

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
Marie Lloyd.
E. C. Rolls' presents "Any Old Thing."

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran presents "The Better 'Ole."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Joe Elvin & Co. in "Bogies."
Capt. De Villier's Airship. Dnig Sen Bros. Hayman & Franklin. Foster Kershaw. Rennie & Roxburgh. Maisie Rowlands. Emilie Lay and Pianist. Allen McKelvin. Bioscope. Hope Charteris.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
"The Lads of the Village.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 13.
Rosal's Elephants.
Lee Ephraim's Co., in "After the Trial."
Ko Ten Ichi Troupe,
Lucille Benstead,
Billy Housini and Co.,
The Bradshaws, The Carruthers,
D'Haven and Hart, Geo Danley,
Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Corson's Instrumentalists,
The Girls from the Golden West.
Three Sisters Macarte.
Lily and Madge Williams. Geo. Newburn.
Molly McCarthy, assisted by Dolly Selwyn.
Claude Lester. Haywood and Hay.
Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Albert De Courville's revue "Flying Colours.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
Francis Letty presents "Bobo,"
including Ida Crispi,
The Sisters Mestrys, Nan Foster,
Norman Field, Bioscope.

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12.
Walter Bentley's Review, "Odds On."
Ethel and May. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Albert De Courville's revue "Joy-Land."

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Jack Cromo's Pantomime "Mother Hubbard."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes without prejudice.

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